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ABM TREATY ANNIVERSARY SPARKS ASSESSMENT, COMMENT

'Impulse' for Arms Race

LD262134 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 May 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Presenter] It is 15 years today since the signing of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on limiting antimissile defense systems. Here is an interview with Academician Sagdeyev:

[Sagdeyev] This treaty, signed precisely on 26 May 15 years ago, is at present the sole functioning treaty limiting the arms race between our countries, and I would say that its significance goes far beyond the framework of any kind of individual agreement in which some kind of definite arithmetical and quantitive thresholds might be established. It is an accord between two countries on a mutual identical understanding of a concept -- the concept that any attempts to create a defense system, defense military weaponry against the nuclear bomb, will lead to a totally unpredictable situation. It will serve as an impulse for an even more unbridled arms race in offensive nuclear weapons.

[Unidentified interviewer] But all the same, we know that at the moment there are many, quite a lot, of U.S. opponents to this treaty. What will happen in the event this treaty is repudiated?

[Sagdeyev] If, after repudiation of this treaty, there follows a real attempt to create global defense systems similar to those discussed in the Strategic Defense Initiative program, then this can lead to a nonstop race between offensive and defense weapons on the one hand, and on the other hand to the appearance of yet another component in strategic weaponry, a space component; and all of this system, the whole world filled with an enormous quantity of nuclear weapons, counterweapons, space battle stations, computers which control [upravlyayut] and make decisions, will become extremely unstable.

[Interviewer] We know about the devotion of the U.S. Administration to the SDI program. A number of military programs have already been put in motion. Does this not show that on the whole there is no future for the treaty on antimissile defense?

[Sagdeyev] I think that time is working for us. The process of reinterpreting the situation which may arise after implementation of the SDI, after concentrated deployment [razvertyvaniya] of work, is underway. It is underway both in the United States and in NATO countries, allies of the United States, and critical, realistic voices are to be heard more and more often and more and more confidently. This is shown by a recent resolution of the U.S. House of Representatives, which called on the administration to strictly and unswervingly observe the conditions of the treaty on limiting antimissile defense, in its traditional, that is, narrow formulation. This also shown by the utterances of a number of well-known and competent senators. I look with optimism on the fate of this treaty.

Former 'Cornerstone'

PM270821 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[Article by V.P. Karpov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Arms Limitation and Disarmament Problems Administration: "A Difficult 'Jubilee.' The ABM Treaty 15 Years On"]

[Text] Today is the 15th anniversary of the day when the Soviet-U.S. Treaty of the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems was signed in 1972. In the course of the first few years there were no doubts at all about its role as a cornerstone in the process of limiting and reducing strategic arms. In the subsequent period, however, the U.S. Administration -- having put forward the "Star Wars" program which runs contrary to the treaty -- has been leading matters toward its demolition.

We asked V.P. Karpov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Arms Limitation and Disarmament Problems Administration, who took part in the elaboration of the ABM Treaty, to comment on the prevailing situation:

The main importance of the ABM Treaty lies in the fact that its conclusion halted the ongoing cycle of competition between U.S. and USSR strategic offensive arms and defensive means.

Back in the late fifties the United States started conducting experiments on the creation [sozdaniye] of means to combat ballistic missiles, and in the early sixties deployed an experimental ABM system on Kwajalein Atoll. In the mid-sixties it started developing [razrabatyvat] a large-scale ABM system which was to have covered the country's entire territory. Work on the creation [sozdaniye] of ABM means was also being done in the USSR.

It seemed that defensive means ought to have helped boost the security of both countries. But studies of the consequences of their deployment led U.S. and Soviet experts to the conclusion that large-scale ABM systems would have a destabilizing effect on USSR-U.S. mutual relations, would whip up the arms race, and would increase the risk of a nuclear war starting.

The conclusion of the ABM Treaty in 1972 was the result of thorough study of all details and adjustment of formulations. Its unlimited duration ought to have ensured stable strategic mutual relations between the two countries. It also made it possible to conclude the Interim Agreement on Certain Measures With Respect to the Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (SALT I) in 1972, and subsequently, in 1979, the SALT II treaty which, had it been ratified, would have marked the first real step along the path of reducing strategic offensive arms.

Prsident Reagan announced in March 1983 a new U.S. program -- the "Strategic Defense Initiative" (SDI), which was neatly dubbed the "Star Wars" plan. This program aims at the creation [sozdaniye] of large-scale ABM systems which not only cover U.S. territory in its entirety but also take strike weapons into space.

Washington tries to claim that the SDI program is compatible with the ABM Treaty. But a comparison of SDI with the treaty's provisions testifies to the contrary.

The proclaimed goal of SDI is the deployment of an ABM system covering U.S. territory in its entirety. But Paragraph 1 of Article I of the treaty directly prohibits the deployment of such systems or the creation [sozdaniye] of a base for such a defense. The same paragraph prohibits any deployment of ABM systems for the defense of even individual regions, let alone the country's entire territory, unless such deployment falls within the provisions of Article III, which sets specific quantitative and geographical limitations on ABM systems (one region for each side, taking the 1974 protocol into account).

Furthermore, the SDI program envisages the creation [sozdaniye] of ABM systems with space-based elements. But Paragraph 1 of Article V of the treaty prohibits the creation [sozdaniye], testing, and deployment of ABM systems and their components which are sea-based, air-based, space-based, or mobile land-based. In other words, the treaty prohibits the creation [sozdaniye] of any ABM systems except stationary land-based ones.

The U.S. side tries to refute these provisions, claiming that Paragraph 1 of Article V of the treaty supposedly refers only to ABM systems or components based on traditional technologies in existence at the time when the document was signed. Such reasoning is inconsistent, insofar as Article II provides a universal definition of ABM systems applicable to all of the treaty's provisions. The universal definition of ABM systems determines the universal nature of the entire treaty, in other words its application to any ABM systems which could be created [sozdany] in the future. This is also the purpose of Agreed Statement D. It follows from this statement, first, that it is primarily necessary to ensure that the sides honor their pledges not to deploy any ABM systems and their components unless as provided in Article III of the treaty, in other words in their stationary land-based variety; second, that all of the treaty's provisions, in view of their universal nature, extend to any ABM systems and components, including those based on physical principles different from those in existence at the time the treaty was signed; third, that in the event of the creation [sozdaniye] of such new systems or their components in the future, specific additional limitations could be set over and above the treaty's general provisions, taking into account their specific nature and differences between them and the components listed in Article II (such limitations should be the subject of discussion by the Standing Consultative Commission and of agreement as an amendment to the treaty).

The aforementioned makes it clear that the system of the treaty's provisions does not allow the creation [sozdaniye], testing and deployment of a large-scale ABM system with space-based elements.

The Department of State recently published a thick report which provides an "analysis" of the exchange of opinions during preparatory work on the text of the ABM Treaty with the obvious intention of presenting material which would back the legitimacy of a "broad" interpretation of the document and SDI's compatibility with it. As a participant in the talks, I cannot fail to notice the obvious bias of this report. The discussion was not recorded as part of the materials cited in the report, and no joint protocols were kept, and therefore this is nothing but a unilateral interpretation of the talks.

The basic meaning of the claims by the Department of State boils down to the assertion that the Russians apparently wanted to place limitations only on ABM systems that were known at the time the treaty was concluded. Therefore, it is claimed, now they have no right to insist on the "narrow" interpretation, since at the time the treaty's provisions were being elaborated they were unwilling to place limitations on ABM systems created [sozdavayemyye] on the basis of new technology.

Nothing can be further from the truth than this claim. What was being offered by the U.S. side looked like an intention to enshrine in the treaty provisions that installations capable of replacing existing antimissile missiles, antimissile missile launch installations, and ABM radar stations ought to be regulated in the same way as ABM means existing at the time the treaty was concluded. Our side -- quite reasonably -- pointed out that, since we did not yet know the precise nature of possible future ABM components based on different physical principles or their ability to replace antimissile missiles and radar stations, it would be premature to make new systems subject to the same limitations as existing ones. At the same time, we believed it necessary to supplement the treaty with a provision introducing additional limitatons on the deployment of ABM systems or their components which would be created [sozdavalis by] on the basis of new technologies. Agreed Statement D introduced them.

It must be said that there are numerous opponents of the administration's course of demolishing the ABM Treaty in the United States itself. A few days ago the Senate Foreign Relations Committee passed a resolution confirming the ABM Treaty in its so-called "narrow" interpretation and expressing the opinion that it cannot be reinterpreted by the President without the USSR's consent thereto and without the Senate's approval.

Nonetheless, back in early February the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks essentially raised the "broad" interpretation of the ABM Treaty as substantiation of the U.S. position. Now the U.S. side is going further still: It proposes that the Soviet Union agrees right now that 1994 be officially recognized as the last year of operation of the ABM Treaty. The USSR would thus be forced to recognize that, after 1994, the United States would have the right to deploy the system envisaged by the SDI program, and the ABM Treaty should either be amended or cease to exist. This approach radically contradicts all previous statements made by President Reagan and other administration spokesmen about the intention to strictly observe the ABM Treaty's provisions.

The Soviet position is based on the need to fully preserve the ABM Treaty as a document of unlimited duration, providing the necessary base for accords on substantial reductions of strategic offiensive arms. Such reductions would be impossible unless the treaty is fully preserved. We are ready to review, together with the United States, practical measures to strengthen the operation of the ABM Treaty. One such measure could be an accord that the USSR and the United States do not make use of the right granted to them to withdraw from the treaty for at least 10 years. If the sides have the slightest difference as to what is specifically prohibited by the treaty, the Soviet side proposes that talks be held for the purpose of agreeing a list of installations whose launch into space for the purpose of testing or deployment would be prohibited. This would establish a joint understanding of the treaty's relevant provisions and would eliminate any possibility of different interpretations.

The schedule review of the ABM Treaty's operation, held once every 5 years, falls due this year. The Soviet side advocates that it be held at a sufficiently high level -- the level of defense ministers or their deputies, for example. The sides' mutual concerns about observance of the treaty could be discussed and eliminated in the course of the review, and measures could be agreed to strengthen its effect.

Treaty in 'Danger'

LD251638 Moscow TASS in English 1325 GMT 25 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 25 TASS -- Commentator Sergey Bogatov writes:

Fifteen years ago, on May 26, 1972, the USSR and the United States signed in Moscow the timeless treaty on the limitation (?of Antiballistic) Missile Systems (ABM) and the interim agreement on certain measures in the field of limiting strategic offensive arms.

These accords became the first joint action by the two powers to curb the nuclear arms race both quantitavely and qualitatively, to reach a mutually acceptable solution of vitally important problems of national and international security. They gave people hope that in the modern world -- in which enough nuclear arms have already been stockpiled to turn it into a lifeless asteroid -- human reason is capable of stopping and reversing the fateful development.

But today the ABM Treaty is in danger. Washington's intent to achieve military-technological superiority, its illusionary hopes to surge into the lead by cramming outer space with weapons threaten to destroy the treaty. The entire meaning of this historic document is to put an end to the competition in the creation of ever more sophisticated weapons systems fraught with the most dangerous unpredictable [words indistinct] one hears talk in Washington about abandoning this timeless treaty so as to start implementing the "Star Wars" programme in full volume already after 1994 and before that to carry out virtually any work in this field while refraining only from the deployment of a space-based ABM system. There is no need to argue that a reduction of strategic offensive arms is impossible without preserving the viability and effectiveness of the ABM Treaty, and precisely this is championed by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

If the ABM treaty were to collapse this would compromise the very idea of arms control and result in a drastic growth of mistrust, mutual suspiciousness and the temptation to keep a step ahead of the other side in deploying ever new systems. Destabilisation will become a fact and acquire an irreversible nature. The risk of an accidental outbreak of war would immediately increase several times over.

It should be hoped that the forces of (?reason will) gain the upper hand and that the ABM Treaty, this foundation of the entire process of limiting and reducing (?strategic weapons, will) be preserved and strengthened.

PRAVDA CITES PRE-PACT MEETING NEWS CONFERENCE

PM290927 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Experts' News Conference"]

[Text] Berlin, 28 May -- The news conference of Soviet foreign policy experts held here on the eve of the conference of the Warsaw Pact states' Political Consultative Committee demonstrated the profound concern of the mass media of various countries with the present international situation and their desire to find the roots of the obstacles on the path to its normalization and to the halting of the arms race. A.I. Vlasov, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Propaganda Department; Academician Ye.M. Primakov, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of World Economy and International Relations; and V.M. Falin, chairman of the board of APN, who spoke at the conference, informed journalists of the USSR's position on basic international issues.

What are the main reasons for the difficulties at the talks on medium-range missiles, what influence is this problem having on other aspects of disarmament, is the Soviet Union prepared to view the question of reducing conventional armaments separately from nuclear armaments -- these and other questions were put to the Soviet experts.

The answers emphasized that one of the main obstacles on the path to achieving real progress in the disarmament field consists in the West attempts to cling to old political thinking, to the concept of nuclear deterrence. Renouncing this concept would undoubtedly set in motion the solution of many acute probelms, including the problem of medium-range nuclear missiles. Some difficulties at the relevant Soviet-U.S. talks are rooted in the U.S. position and others in the position of the United States' allies. In particular it is the FRG above all which to this day has failed to clearly define its stance on operational and tactical weapons with a range of over 500 km. There are also unclear points in the positions of a number of U.S. allies. As for the United States itself, the difficulties here stem from the fact that this power would like not to destroy its Pershing-2 missiles in West Europe but to turn them into missiles of lesser range by removing the second stage. The unconstructiveness of this approach is already obvious in the fact that reconverting a missile of lesser range into a Pershing-2 by attaching the second stage to it would take just a few hours.

In addition the United States would like not to destroy ground-based cruise missiles but turn them into sea-based missiles. It is also not prepared to undertake to station medium-range missiles on its national territory in such a way that these missiles cannot reach the USSR's territory. Both at the Reykjavik meeting and after it the Soviet Union has insisted and will continue to insist that the reduction of the medium-range potential should not lead to an increase in the threat presented with the aid of these systems to the parties or one of the parties. Finally, the United States would prefer the reduction of medium-range missiles at the first stage to affect only the USSR, while the U.S. missiles in the European zone would begin to be destroyed only at the second stage. According to this "logic" measures for the verification of the observance of the accord at the first stage should be implemented only with regard to the Soviet Union, while the United States would be exempted from any verification by national or international means, and still more so by on-site inspection. It is absolutely clear that this demand has nothing in common with the principles of party and identical security and cannot be accepted. [paragraph continues]

At the same time Soviet experts expressed the hope that difficulties of this kind in the United States' position will not create insuperable obstacles to the achievement of a relevant agreement.

A number of journalists' questions concerned problems of reducing conventional armaments. In this connection it was noted that, unfortunately, to this day, a year after the appeal from Budapest, the proposals put forward in this field by the socialist countries have failed to meet with a positive reaction from the West. On the contrary, the NATO states' defense ministers have decided to increase their expenditure on conventional armaments. Moreover, it is against the background of this decision that the West is beginning to exaggerate the thesis that the Soviet Union could unilaterally withdraw its armed forces from the territory of a number of the states which are its allies. What is the logic of this position? The USSR and its allies are prepared to discuss all questions at the conference table, and as soon as possible. They are prepared to view the question of reducing conventional armaments in isolation from nuclear armaments, in the context of tactical and operational weapons. For 18 months the Soviet Union unilaterally adhered to a moratorium on nuclear weapons tests. But not one of these opportunities has so far met with a response from the NATO states. As for operational and tactical missiles with a range of under 500 km, their reduction cannot be discussed in isolation from conventional armaments. After all they are designed for use of both nuclear and conventional means. If one is artificially divorced from the other then the relevant agreement will be unreliable from the outset. It will scarcely promote military detente. In this context substantial importance attaches to the joint proposal from the GDR and the CSSR on creating a nuclear-free corridor in Central Europe. This initiative is supported by the Soviet Union, as is in general the idea of creating zones free from nuclear weapons, but the Western side has so far failed to give a constructive reply to it.

The Soviet experts noted that the results of the Soviet-Romanian talks in Bucharest reflect the socialist countries' desire to make a constructive contribution to the process of the normalization of the international situation and to mobilize all available opportunities for this purpose. The same desire will undoubtedly permeate the Political Consultative Committee conference opening in the GDR capital. This reflects the socialist states' new foreign policy philosophy which rests on the new political thinking, on a new consideration of a whole series of international questions.

PRAVDA REVIEWS DISARMAMENT TALKS, WEEK'S EVENTS

PM271245 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 87 Second Edition p 4

["International Review" column by Boris Orekhov]

[Text] Toward an Agreement or Away From It? [subhead]

According to news agency reports, somewhere in the middle of this year our world population will reach 5 billion. In what kind of conditions, what kind of international climate will these 5 billion people live? Will the nuclear threat still be hanging over their heads as it is today? Or will something happen to make people breathe a sigh of relief? This depends on the people themselves and, of course, mainly on those who have political powers and who play a decisive role in determining states' foreign policy courses.

The complex of interconnected, interrelated issues of removing military tension in the world and reducing confrontation between states with different political systems is vast and complicated. The comprehensive study of these issues and current attempts to unravel individual knots have recently shown that there is one issue to which a solution is quite feasible and accessible. It is the issue of removing U.S. and Soviet medium-range missiles from Europe and sharply limiting them in the Asian part of the USSR and on U.S. territory.

As everyone remembers, a proposal relating to this issue -- a very specific, detailed proposal -- was put forward by our country 3 months ago, on 28 February. Since then this subject has been discussed in political circles and the mass media in the West. It was immediately pointed out -- and rightly so -- that the 28 February proposal is a swift move by the Soviet side to meet the positions of the United States and its West European allies. As M.S. Gorbachev noted in his recently published replies to questions by the Italian newspaper L'UNITA's editorial board, several weeks ago it seemed that an agreement was just a few steps away. The positive reaction everywhere to this made people think along those lines.

Three months have passed, however, and there is still no agreement. What is the matter? The same old problem. We seem to be hearing the same old story from the West again. Without going into details, from the outside the situation is highly reminiscent of Reykjavik, when the world was literally a step away from a historic agreement between the two great powers on a radical arms reduction, but the stand taken by our partners in the talks did not make it possible to take this last step. And now? The further we move away from 28 February, the more "arguments" and "provisions" casting doubt on the Soviet proposal are appearing in NATO countries and, what is particularly strange, in some West European countries which, one would think, would have a particular interest in getting rid of their missiles.

It is impossible not to notice that the Soviet initiative to elimiante medium-range missiles in Europe has clearly taken many in the West unawares. Surely this is shown by the present paradoxical situation? Not so long ago some Western politicians were trying to persuade Europeans that they were in favor of the zero option regarding medium-range missiles in Europe while the Soviet Union, they said, was linking this problem in a package with other issues relating to nuclear arms and space weapons and thereby holding matters back.

Today, however, when the zero option has been proposed by the Soviet Union, these same politicians are looking for pretexts to wreck if not at least prolong and postpone the achievement of an accord. First they said the question of medium-range missiles could not be resolved without simultaneously removing operational and tactical missiles. Then tactical nuclear arms began to be brought into the matter. These were followed by battlefield nuclear weapons and then conventional arms and armed forces.

It cannot be denied that all these problems are in themselves very serious. But they cannot all be taken up and resolved at once. It would be terrible if the solution to these undisputedly important problems were to be used to drag out the process of resolving an issue which is, so to speak, as clear as daylight.

The FRG Government, on whose decision a great deal depends, is making heavy weather of formulating its position regarding the Soviet proposals. There is still no unity of views on the Rhine concerning the problem of eliminating the missiles: Whereas the Free Democrats who are part of the ruling coalition have spoken in favor of the USSR initiative, representatives of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) and Christian Social Union (CSU) continue to say that they do not wish to accept the Soviet proposal to remove medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles from Europe.

Describing the prospects in Geneva, French President F. Mitterrand said recently: "For the first time the United States and the Soviet Union have shown a willingness for real disarmament. Consequently I support the stand taken by U.S. President R. Reagan and M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee." While saying that possible disarmament in the class of operational and tactical missiles is "a step in the right direction," the president still threw a lifebelt to the FRG chancellor. "When the FRG Government has finally made its position clear, we will see what to do," he said.

The approach taken by the Italian Government is clearer; G. Andreotti, Italian foreign minister, said recently that it positively appraises the proposal to eliminate medium-range missiles and operational and tactical missiles in Europe, although Italy still has to work out its final position on this issue and "is continuing consultations with the United States and other NATO allies in Europe." G. Andreotti notes that if an agreement were to be concluded on medium-range missiles, for the first time in the history of arms control we would achieve a substantial reduction in missiles already deployed, and this progress could "open up prospects which could not even have been imagined several years ago."

An interesting detail: There is as yet no agreement to eliminate medium-range missiles, but the rumor has already leaked out from the West that the Pentagon and NATO are taking measures in advance to ensure that this agreement is basically reduced to naught in the event of its being signed. An anonymous review appeared in the British newspaper NEWS ON SUNDAY, which said that in case a Soviet-U.S. treaty is signed on medium-range missiles, U.S. and NATO military leaders "are drawing up a secret plan to deceive the Russians." The newspaper writes that this plan envisages trebling the number of U.S. cruise missiles in Britain by means of installing 230 cruise missiles on U.S. bombers based at Fairford and another 108 missiles on submarines at Holy Loch.

So this is the way some people are preparing for agreement, this is the way they are preparing to disarm....

Unified Principle [subhead]

Our country is now actively pursuing a policy aimed at freeing Europe from nuclear arms.

But we are not doing this to transfer the nuclear danger to different regions of the world. Our aim is to begin with Europe, where the largest stockpiles of nuclear weapons are concentrated, and then move on to freeing all the continents from nuclear arms by the year 2000 and, on this basis, create a comprehensive international peace and security system.

At the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Reykjavik we agreed that the USSR and the United States would each keep 100 warheads on medium-range missiles. This was done with the sole aim of counterbalancing the U.S. nuclear means which are now concentrated in the Asian and Pacific region in considerable quantities: The United States has concentrated a powerful nuclear strike force in this region and is building up its nuclear arsenals on its ships and at its military bases located in foreign territory. Of course, the problem of the complete, global elimination of medium-range missiles is on the agenda and the Soviet Union has many times stated its willingness to resolve it. But for this to happen the United States would have to agree to eliminate its nuclear means in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines and also to withdrawing its aircraft carriers to positions behind agreed lines.

The question of ways leading to the removal of nuclear arms from Asia was discussed in the course of the recent official friendly visit to the Soviet Union by Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee. During his speech at the dinner given in honor of the high-ranking guest, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee reaffirmed that our country proposes making the initial moves now along roads leading to the removal of nuclear weapons from Asia. The creation of nuclear-free zones is considered an important step in this direction. The Soviet Union has already signed the appropriate protocols toward a treaty on creating such a zone in the South Pacific and supports the proposals of other countries to create zones free of nuclear weapons in Southeast Asia and the Korean peninsula. It is in favor of convening an international conference on the Indian Ocean, at which the question of declaring this region a peace zone could be discussed and decided.

The USSR's position regarding the Asian and Pacific region, which was formulated by the Soviet side during the visit by Nguyen Van Linh, confirms that the Soviet Union does not divide the principles of its international policy into European and Asian sections. In today's interdependent world the peoples of all continents share common hopes and concerns. We are in favor of peace and good-neighborliness, trust and mutual understanding, and the mutually advantageous exchange of goods, technology, and cultural values prevailing in relations between states in the Asian and Pacific region, which is becoming increasingly important in international life.

During the visit to the USSR by the leader of the SRV, the sides discussed a broad complex of issues concerning Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation, which has long been multifaceted and extensive. Life does not stand still. It has demanded that we review our ties and disclose their weak spots and disharmony with the new situation, and has also stated the need to bring the mechanism and forms of cooperation closer to present requirements.

Soviet people understand and approve of the Vietnamese people's efforts to draw their country out of its economic difficulties and reach a sharp turning point in the implementation of its planned socioeconomic programs. Today our Vietnamese friends have the same slogan as we: restructuring. Because this is so, the aims and the inflexible Vietnamese people have set themselves after standing their ground in the bitter, prolonged battle against the aggressor and embarking on the building of a new life are particularly intelligible to us and close to our hearts.

Not Yet At Boiling Point [subhead]

One gets the impression that the fatal "Bermuda Triangle" has now moved to the Persian Gulf. Not a day goes by without reports of another incident in the waters of this region widely used by vessels of all countries and along a well-worn route for tankers carrying Near East oil. Tankers and other ships from various countries come under attack from missiles fired from military aircraft without any signs of identification. Naval vessels of unknown origin open fire on innocent ships and subject them to inspection. Mines of unknown origin rock in the emerald waters of the Gulf.

According to a recent AP calculation, a total of 230 vessels from various countries have come under attack in the waters of the Persian Gulf since the beginning of 1984. According to other calculations, in the first 4 months of this year alone more than 30 ships have suffered in this region of the world. This number includes two of our own vessels.

Last Tuesday state flags were flown at half-mast on the flagstaffs of government buildings in Washington -- to mourn the 37 U.S. seamen from the missile frigate Stark who died as the result of an incident on 17 May.

An Iraqi aircraft carried out a successful missile attack against the Stark which turned into a tragedy for dozens of U.S. families. "This tragedy must never be repeated," U.S. President R. Reagan said, immediately following this with the statement that, despite what has happened the United States intends to maintain its naval presence in the Persian Gulf region, which the U.S. Government has termed "a zone of U.S. vital interests."

This attitude has been confirmed by C. Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defense. "Mr Secretary," a U.S. television commentator asked him, "why do we need to have our ships in this region?" "The ships are there because they are in international waters and we cannot allow anyone to force us to leave international waters," the secretary replied, once again displaying the logic so characteristic of him.

If one considers the sustained pitch of the hostilities being waged by Iran and Iraq, this so-called "patrolling" by U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf, where they have been gathered mainly in recent months, assumes an ominous nature and threatens unpredictable consequences. It is having a snowball effect: A state of alert has been declared at the British naval base in the Sharja Emirate, which is part of the United Arab Emirates, and on all British warships in this region.

According to the official Washington version, American frigates and aircraft carriers are in the Persian Gulf -- as they are in other waters thousands of miles away from U.S. shores -- to "guarantee freedom of navigation." This freedom, they say in Washington, is threatened in the Persian Gulf by the war between Iran and Iraq. So perhaps it would be more logical to take effective measures to promote an end to this exhausting, senseless war than to give the order, as President R. Reagan has done, to U.S. Navy ships patrolling the Gulf to open fire on any Iranian or Iraqi aircraft if "the nature of its flight reveals hostile intentions"?

The waters of the Persian Gulf must not be brought to the boil. Actions posing a threat to the safety and freedom of navigation in this region must be decisively renounced, as must actions undertaken both directly and by means of building up the military presence of non-littoral states in this region under the pretext of guaranteeing freedom of navigation.

These issues, the Soviet Union believes, can and must be resolved at the negotiating table. Our country is willing, in particular, to take part in multilateral talks between all states using the waters of the Indian Ocean with the aim of drawing up safety guarantees for sea lanes, including the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz.

FOREIGN MINISTRY SPOKESMAN BRIEFS JOURNALISTS

Discusses NATO Meeting

LD281255 Moscow TASS in English 1234 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS -- "The NATO defence ministers' meeting in Brussels has again shown that NATO members do not intend to abandon the strategy of flexible response and nuclear deterrence", Yuriy Gremetskykh, first deputy head of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a briefing here today.

"The defence ministers," he pointed out, "did not come forward with a positive stand as regards the Soviet proposals on the elimination of medium-and shorter-range missiles in Europe". "One gathers the impression that they were preoccupied with the question of which arms should make up for the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles on the European continent if an appropriate agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States is concluded, rather than with the question of how to reduce nuclear confrontation in Europe as the Soviet proposals envisage."

"In particular," the spokesman said, "the ministers declared for a further increase in military budgets and a build-up in conventional arms". "The tattered body of a Soviet threat", Yuriy Gremetskykh emphasised, "is used every time when an arms build-up is sought. This is how it was this time as well. Particularly zealous in this respect was U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger who perceived aggressiveness even in the current reorganisation process in the Soviet Union."

Persian Gulf Situation

LD281316 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1242 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 28 May (TASS) -- A USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman has evaluated the call made in Brussels by U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger for the NATO allies to take part in defending freedom of navigation in the Persian Gulf as an unconcealed attempt on the part of the United States to draw the allies into U.S. plans for building up a military presence in this region -- which is situated outside NATO's operational area -- and to involve them in this seat of growing tension. These U.S. plans, he said, speaking at a briefing today, cannot fail to worry other countries. The Soviet Union has repeatedly stated its resolute support for freedom of shipping in international waters, including in the Persian Gulf. The USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman recalled that during his stay in India, Mikhail Gorbachev called for talks to be held with the United States and interested Asiatic countries on measures of trust in the military sphere as applied to the contiguous water of the Indian and Pacific Oceans. The U.S. defense secretary's statement is both a challenge to the United Nations Organization and a reflection of the reluctance of the U.S. Administration to take a road proposed by many countries, including the USSR and India. The USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs spokesman stressed that it is now first and foremost essential for urgent collective efforts to be made by states to stop the bloody Iran-Iraq war, which is having a catastrophic effect on the situation in the Persian Gulf.

REAGAN GIVES DISARMAMENT, GULF VIEWS IN TV REMARKS

PM290957 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 May 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Reagan Interview"]

[Text] Washington, 28 May -- U.S. President R. Reagan gave an interview on Wednesday to a group of television journalists from Western Europe, Canada, and Japan.

Answering a question by correspondents on how close the USSR and the United States are to reaching an agreement on the removal of medium-range missiles from Europe, Reagan said the United States has been holding "lively consultations with the allies" on this issue. "A general consensus appears to have been reached," he added, "on the basic terms of what we are discussing."

"I believe," Reagan continued, "that considerable progress has been made, greater progress than at any time since World War II, and that we now have a more favorable opportunity to set about reducing nuclear arms than ever before." "I would like to hope that we will eventually succeed in eliminating all nuclear arms in the world," he added.

At this point, however, the President emphasized that the Washington administration has "no plans to completely remove nuclear arms from Europe," as this would supposedly allow the Soviet Union to retain its alleged "considerable superiority in conventional arms." The head of the White House also made it clear that his administration still has no intention of giving up work on the "Star Wars" program.

Reagan admitted he is concerned by the increased authority and influence of the USSR and the Soviet leadership in Western Europe. This, as the press emphasizes, is directly linked to the Soviet Union's extensive peace initiatives. However, he made the unsubstantiated claim in this respect that "the United States must have greater credibility than the Soviet Union."

During the interview the President admitted that the "Irangate scandal" has damaged his personal authority. "I am portrayed," he said, "as a man who secretly broke the law and became involved in various shady deals to circumvent congressional restrictions on aid to the freedom fighters" (this is the Washington administration's name for the Contras who are attempting to overthrow the legitimate Nicaraguan Government -- TASS note). The head of the White House once again tried to absolve himself of all responsibility for what happened, claiming it is all the work of journalists accredited in Washington.

Discussing U.S. military preparations in the Persian Gulf, Reagan threatened Iran, which he called a "barbaric country." The president made it quite clear that U.S. Armed Forces are prepared to attack Iran. He refused to be more specific about these plans, saying: "In my opinion, it will be far better if the Iranians are left wondering as they go to bed every night what we could do rather than us telling them about it beforehand."

FITZWATER REPORTS ON WHITE HOUSE GULF-POLICY MEETING

LD290941 Moscow TASS in English 0747 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] Washington May 29 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

President Reagan had a meeting with the leaders of both chambers of Congress at the White House on Thursday. Taking part in the meeting were Secretary of State George Shultz, Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs Frank Carlucci.

Marlin Fitzwater, a White House representative, said at a briefing that the meeting was held to discuss the Persian Gulf situation and to inform the legislators of the adminstration's policy and actions in its whole region. Answering questions of correspondents, Marlin Fitzwater made it clear that the adminstration planned expansion of the American military presence in the Persian Gulf.

Discussed in the course of the meeting was not only U.S. warships escorting Kuwaiti ships after they are registered as "U.S. ships" and the American flag hoisted, but also U.S. combat planes escorting these ships, he said. Thereby, the White House representative indirectly reaffirmed press reports on plans of transferring a U.S. aircraft carrier group led by the Aircraft Carrier Constellation to the Persian Gulf.

President Reagan has authorized commanders of U.S. warships staying in the Persian Gulf to return the fire if attacked, Marlin Fitzwater said. Answering correspondents' questions, he said that the order to open fire would be valid also in cases if American ships are fired at not only from the air and the sea but also from the ground targets.

The White House representative admitted that the congressmen felt growing concern and anxiety over possible consequences of expansion of the American military presence in the region. He generously promised that they would be kept in the know and regularly consulted with, and as "consolation" he recalled President Reagan's "defensive' mission in the Persian Gulf.

It is clear from the briefing of the White House representative that the United States not only itself intends to keep the situation in the Persian Gulf and the whole of the Middle East region heightening, but it is also intensifying pressure on its NATO allies to draw them into the U.S. Adminstration's operations there, which are fraught with dangerous consequences. He said that President Reagan at a meeting with leaders of seven biggest capitalist powers due in June will personally raise the question of the need for allies' military "cooperation" with the United States in the Persian Gulf. He admitted that the efforts that had been exerted by the U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in this direction brought no practical results so far.

RSFSR DAILY PROFILES NEW CIA DIRECTOR WEBSTER

PM290857 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 21 May 87 First Edition p 3

["The New CIA Director"]

[Text] The appointment of a new CIA director has been officially announced in the American capital. He is former FBI chief William Webster, born 6 March 1924 in St. Louis, Missouri.

He studied at Washington University law faculty, where he was awarded a doctorate in law. On returning to his home city he was taken on the staff of a major law firm, of which he subsequently became a partner. [paragraph continues]

At the same time Webster began taking an active interest in politics and public life: He was elected chairman of the Republican Party organization for the State of Missouri and took part in the work of the local branch of the the public and religious organization's president, which helped him make the transition to state service. He was appointed prosecuting attorney for the Eastern District of the State of Missouri, then chief federal judge, and finally a member of the U.S. Court of Appeals, from where he was transferred to the post of FBI director by President Carter in 1978.

According to the American press, Webster, despite his "excessive bluntness and intractability," strengthened the FBI both in terms of personnel and equipment, making the organization an even more effective tool of the ruling class. The FBI's annual budget almost doubled between 1978 and 1987, reaching $1.2 billion.

Webster is a follower of Christian Science, he neither smokes nor drinks. He is a tennis fanatic. In 1984, when his wife died, it was rumored that he would retire. But Webster stated that he had no intention of leaving.

"Webster's transfer from the FBI to the CIA will undoubtedly help the Reagan command," U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT writes. In that daily's opinion, Webster "will improve the CIA's relations with Congress and the press," which have been severely undermined by the unabating "Iran-contras" scandal. "Webster is thought to be untouched by the scandal and will be able to restore the CIA's reputation," CBS has commented.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA CITES PRC OFFICIAL ON U.S. TALKS

PM271307 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 May 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Visit to the United States"]

[Text] Washington, 26 May -- The official part of the visit to the United States by the Chinese Government delegation led by Yang Shangkun, deputy chairman of the PRC Central Military Council, has come to close here. According to the U.S. press, he was received by U.S. President R. Reagan, had meetings with U.S. Vice President G. Bush and U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz, and held consultations with C. Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defense, and other Pentagon representatives.

Opinions were exchanged during the meetings on issues concerning the state of Chinese-American relations and the expansion of bilateral exchange, including in the military sphere, and also on international problems of mutual interest. According to Yang Shangkun, "enormous potential is concealed in relations between our two countries and a great deal has still to be done to reveal this potential."

ZHAO ZIYANG ON OVERCOMING 'HINDRANCES' IN PARTY

LD281903 Moscow TASS in English 1616 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Beijing May 28 TASS -- A conference opened here to sum up the effort to harmonize the Communist Party of China. The meeting was convened by the Central Commission in Charge of Harmonizing the CPC. A speech was delivered by Acting General Secretary of the CPC Central Committee, Premier of the State Council of the PRC Zhao Ziyang. He said that ensuring a consistent implementation of the party's line from the times of the Third Plenum of the CPC Central Committee of Eleventh Convocation is the main task in the area of party construction. "For all-round and correct understanding and steady implementation of this policy, it is necessary to be constantly overcoming and eliminating the influence and hindrances erected by bourgeois liberalisation and ossifying", Zhao Ziyang said.

"The line of the Third Plenary Meeting of the CPC Central Committee is the line at the construction of socialism with Chinese specific features, the line at implementing socialist modernization," the Chinese leader said. "Its two aspects are upholding the four fundamental principles and the course at reforms, conducting the policy of expanding ties with the rest of the world and invigorating the economy.

Touching upon the personnel policy, Zhao Ziyang emphasized the need for carrying out the required re-organization, with simultaneously paying attention to assuring stability.

Speaking at the meeting, Permanent Deputy Chairman of the Central Commission in Charge of Harmonizing the Party, Bo Yibo reported the successful conclusion of the work to harmonize the CPC that lasted three and a half years. He noted the progress reached in the area of ideology, style, discipline and organizing work of the CPC and important experience accumulated over this period in settling correctly intraparty contradictions and problems. Bo Yibo noted as valuable experience the fact that method of mass campaigns was not used during the current effort to harmonize the party and it had been possible to avoid the manifestation of "left mistakes" which had been made during political campaigns in the past. But it was not everywhere that the work to harmonize the party was concluded at an even pace, the speaker noted. Some organizations had a formalistic approach to this effort.

There were occurrences of superficial summing up of the lessons of history when the need of combatting the "left" deviation was noted only and the importance of the struggle against the "right" deviation was played down. This resulted in the fact that soon after the process to put the party in order had been started, the struggle against "spiritual pollution" was curtailed. Protection was given to those who declared for "bourgeois liberalization." This erroneous ideological trend received wide currency as a result, student unrest took place. This created a threat to stability and cohesion of society.

TASS REPORTS UK DIPLOMAT'S ABDUCTION IN IRAN

LD290820 Moscow TASS in English 0810 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] London May 29 TASS -- A British diplomat has been abducted in Iran by a group of unidentified persons.

The British Foreign Office announced today that Edward Chaplin, first secretary at the British interests section at the Swedish Embassy, was driving along a highway in Tehran when a group of armed people stopped the car, forced him to get out of it, and took him away to an unknown destination.

Mr Chaplin was travelling with his wife and their 3-year-old daughter and infant son, who were left alone and unharmed.

In London the Foreign Office urged the charge d'affaires ad interim of Iran to the United Kingdom to render assistance in establishing the whereabouts of the British diplomat as soon as possible and in his immediate release.

FURTHER ON ANATOLIY DOBRYNIN'S VISIT TO INDIA

Foreign Ministry Meeting

LD211700 Moscow TASS in English 1529 GMT 21 May 87

[Text] Delhi May 21 TASS -- Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin, who is staying here on the invitation of the Indian Government and the leadership of the ruling Indian National Congress (I) Party, had a meeting today with State Minister for Foreign Affairs Natwar Singh and Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Indian Foreign Ministry Menon. They discussed questions of mutual interest.

On the same day the Soviet guest visited the memorial house museum of the outstanding Indian stateswoman and politician Indira Gandhi, inspected a photo display about her life and work. He laid flowers to the marble plaque marking the place of the death of this glorious daughter of India and paid homage to her.

Meeting With Tiwari

LD221119 Moscow TASS in English 1046 GMT 22 May 87

[Text] New Delhi May 22 TASS -- Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin, now on a visit here, had a meeting today with the Indian Foreign Minister Tiwari.

During the conversation, which passed in warm, friendly atmosphere, they noted with satisfaction the closeness or coincidence of the positions of the two countries on questions of the international situation and of Soviet-Indian cooperation that were discussed.

They also noted the big work done by both sides to implement the accords reached by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and the prime minister of India Rajiv Gandhi in November 1986, including in the field of trade, economic, and scientific-technical ties. The mutual striving further to strengthen relations between the USSR and India along all directions was confirmed.

Tiwari's Comment

LD242125 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 24 May 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The friendly working visit by Anatoliy Fedorovich Dobrynin to India is continuing. During his meetings and talks with the Indian leaders the favorable prospects for the development of bilateral relations on the basis of the agreements that were signed during Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's visit to India are being discussed. Here is a report from Boris Levchenko in Delhi.

[Levchenko] In reporting on the meetings and talks in Delhi, the Indian press stresses that the Soviet leadership is showing full and profound understanding of the regional and international problems which are of concern to India. Local observers note also that Comrade Dobrynin's visit has once again confirmed that special, unique relations of friendship and cooperation have formed between India and the Soviet Union. A wide range of international and regional problems were touched upon at the meeting with Indian Minister of External Affairs Naraiyan Dutt Tiwari. In an interview for Soviet television, the Indian minister of external affairs said: [begin recording] The visit by Comrade Dobrynin serves the further strengthening of Indian-Soviet friendship, the implementation of economic agreements and of joint efforts in accordance with the principles of the Delhi Declaration. The exchange of views has shown the closeness and unity of the views of the two countries on the causes of tension in various regions of the world, and ways of solving the most important foreign policy problems facing our countries, particularly problems concerning southern Asia. [end recording]

Talks With Party Leaders

LD221328 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1118 GMT 22 May 87

[Text] Delhi, 22 (TASS) -- A meeting took place in Delhi today between A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the leaders of the Indian National Congress-I, N. Heptulla, R.L. Bhatia, B.J. Azad, and others.

Issues concerning the development of interparty relations—between the CPSU and Congress-I were discussed in the context of agreements between M.S. Gorbachev and Rajiv Gandhi. A number of topical international issues were also touched upon.

The Congress-I representatives were informed about the work on the restructuring and renewal of Soviet society, which started in the USSR on the initiative and under the leadership of the CPSU and in accordance with the decisions of the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee January 1987 Plenum.

The Congress-I leaders spoke about their party's activity and noted the complexity of the current situation in India. They said the government and the Indian people will resist the pressure by hostile forces and the attempts by domestic and foreign reaction to weaken national independence and the country's sovereignty.

The Soviet side expressed support for the independent and peace-loving foreign policy course of the Indian Government and for its people's resolve to preserve and consolidate the unity and territorial integrity of the republic.

The meeting passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

Meeting With Gandhi

LD222116 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 22 May 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video report by correspondent B. Levchenko, identified by screen caption]

[Text] Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of India and chairman of the ruling Indian National Congress-I Party, received Comrade Dobrynin. [video shows Rajiv Gandhi and Dobrynin seated and conversing while being photographed by journalists; both are also shown in closeup] Comrade Dobrynin handed Rajiv Gandhi a personal message from Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. During their detailed and friendly conversation there was an exchange of views on the prospects for Soviet-Indian relations and also on pressing problems of world politics.

The previous day Comrade Dobrynin, in answering journalists' questions, had noted the high level and fruitful character of Soviet-Indian relations. The visit by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev to India last November had been the beginning of a fresh stage in the development of these relations.

Comrade Dobrynin's visit to India is a continuation of the traditional regular political contacts between the two countries and is directed at further developing and deepening mutual understanding and cooperation between the Soviet Union and India.

Talk With Defense Minister

LD222256 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 May 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] There was also a meeting today between Comrade Dobrynin with the leaders of the Indian National Congress. In the context of the accord between Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Rajiv Gandhi, matters of developing inter-party links of the CPSU and the Congress-I were discussed. A number of topical international problems were also touched upon.

On the same day, Comrade Dobrynin held a meeting with Narasimha Rao, minister of human resourses development, and Pant, Indian minister of defense. There was a friendly exchange of views on matters of bilateral relations.

Address to Amity Group

PM261037 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In a Cordial Atmosphere"]

[Text] Delhi, 23 May -- A meeting between A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the aktiv of one of the largest Indian-Soviet friendship organizations -- the Friends of the Soviet Union Society -- has been held here in an atmosphere of cordiality and warmth.

Welcoming the Soviet guest, B.R. Bhagat, chairman of the Friends of the Soviet Union Society and an eminent Indian political and social figure, said that friendship between the Indian and Soviet peoples is deeply rooted in history. India regards the Soviet Union as a reliable friend who has always come to its aid in times of difficulty. The numerous projects built with the USSR's assistance, which form the basis of the republic's industry, are lasting monuments to Indian-Soviet cooperation. The historic visit to India by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and his talks with Prime Minister R. Gandhi have raised relations between our countries to a qualitatively new level. The Delhi Declaration signed by the two leaders on the principles of a world free of nuclear weapons and violence reflects the aspirations of all Indians. This year sees the celebration of important dates: the 40th anniversary of India's independence and 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, to which arts festivals by the peoples of both countries will be dedicated, B.R. Bhagat noted.

Addressing those present at the meeting, A.F. Dobrynin said that the time since the meeting between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Gandhi in Delhi has confirmed the great significance of this summit-level Soviet-Indian dialogue. It was a historic event which has given new and powerful impetus to friendly cooperation between our powers both in bilateral affairs and in the international arena. Speaking in the Kremlin recently, M.S. Gorbachev stressed that relations between the USSR and India are unique. A great deal has already been done to strengthen these relations. The lasting significance of the 1971 Soviet-Indian Treaty, which serves as a firm foundation for our collaboration in the international arena, should be emphasized.

We are satisfied with what we have achieved, A.F. Dobrynin noted, but we are also aware that we cannot stop now. Any cause in life is strong not so much by virtue of its past as by its present and particularly its future. And we representatives of both peoples understand: Today a responsibility rests with us to make practical efforts to preserve and increase the potential for goodwill and cooperation that has been built up between our countries. The summit meeting in Delhi in November 1986 and the accords reached at this meeting have taken Soviet-Indian relations to a qualitatively new point. Work in this direction is very active in both the Soviet Union and India. This intensive work is already producing results. Important documents have been signed which cover virtually every sphere -- trade, the economy, science, technology, and culture. They include a long-term program for production cooperation, programs for cooperation in agriculture and the oil industry, and a protocol on fundamental and applied research in oceanology. A comprehensive long-term program for scientific and technical cooperation is in the process of being drawn up and plans are being worked out for a radical increase -- of 150 percent -- in Soviet-Indian trade. As before, the Soviet Union maintains multilevel cooperation with India in the interests of strengthening its defense capability.

The opening on 3 July of an Indian festival in Moscow dedicated to the 40th anniversary of your country's independence will be a brilliant and colorful event. Prime Minister R. Gandhi's personal involvement in the opening of the festival and his new meeting with M.S. Gorbachev will undoubtedly be another important stage in the development of Soviet-Indian relations. We hope that the USSR festival in India, which will be opened in Delhi in November this year by N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, will arouse an equally lively interest among our Indian friends.

Soviet people are aware of the long, hard struggle in which India won its independence and know how much the proud, freedom-loving Indian people value this independence. Your efforts to make your country a strong and highly developed state and your concern to preserve and strengthen India's unity and territorial integrity and its democratic institutions meet with full understanding and support in the Soviet Union. [paragraph continues]

We are also aware that India's independent political course and its determination to independently decide its own destiny and follow its chosen path are not to everyone's taste. Even today some people still try to undermine and weaken India and impose their will upon it. Attempts to destabilize the situation in your country can ultimately be regarded as an attempt to shake its place and role in the international arena. But these attempts are in vain. We resolutely condemn any intrigues by India's enemies, because these intrigues are fraught with serious complications -- moreover, in regions close to our southern borders.

Talking about the latest Soviet peace proposals, A.F. Dobrynin noted: We are glad that the direction of these initiatives and the steps taken by India in the international arena, including those within the framework of the Nonaligned Movement and the "Delhi Six," coincide. This concerns the task of averting a universal nuclear catastrophe and that of reaching a political settlement of regional conflicts, each of which carries the seeds of a "big war."

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee gave details to those present of the process of restructuring and renewing Soviet society that has been undertaken on the initiative and under the leadership of the Communist Party. His account met with great interest.

In conclusion A.F. Dobrynin said: Cooperation between the USSR and India makes a substantial contribution to resolving the main problems of today -- ensuring universal peace and security, establishing equality and justice in international relations, overcoming the economic backwardness of liberated countries, and creating the kind of material and spiritual conditions appropriate to human dignity for everyone on earth. We will sincerely strive to ensure that the Soviet Union and India continue to set such a good example -- an example much needed by the whole world.

Answers were then given to the numerous questions put by members of the Friends of the Soviet Union Society aktiv present at the meeting.

Jammu-Kashmir, Delhi Talks

PM291023 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS reports under general heading "Meetings in the Land of India"]

[Text] Delhi, 26 May -- On 23-25 May A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is currently in India, visited the state of Jammu and Kashmir.

He had friendly conversations with H. Jagmohan, governor of the state, and Chief Minister F. Abdullah, who heads the coalition government of Jammu and Kashmir, which incorporates the local National Conference-F party and the Indian National Congress-I. He also had meetings with representatives of the public.

It was noted with satisfaction at the meetings that cooperation between the Soviet Union and India has developed in a new, qualitative way as a result of the visit to India by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in November 1986. The Soviet guest talked about the work in progress in the USSR to restructure and renew society and about the struggle being waged by the CPSU and the Soviet state to radically improve the international situation.

Everywhere throughout the visit the inhabitants of Jammu and Kashmir expressed warm, friendly feelings toward the Soviet people.

Today A.F. Dobrynin had a meeting in Delhi with the leaders of the Communist Party of India (CPI) headed by C. Rajeswara Rao, general secretary of the CPI National Council.

During the conversation, which proceeded in a warm, comradely atmosphere, the representatives of the CPSU and the CPI exchanged information on their parties' activity and discussed a number of topical problems relating to the international situation and Soviet-Indian relations.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee talked about the work in progress in the USSR to restructure and democratize all aspects of life in Soviet society. He stressed that at the foreign policy level the Soviet Union is mainly concentrating its efforts on radically improving the international situation and removing the threat of mankind's nuclear annihilation.

C. Rajeswara Rao gave a high appraisal of the new steps taken by the CPSU in foreign policy and talked about CPI efforts to galvanize the antiwar movement in the country and about the CPI's struggle for the working people's vital interests. He stressed the importance of unity between all of India's anti-imperialist, democratic forces in order to rebuff imperialism and reaction.

The participants in the meeting noted the great significance of India's independent, peaceable course and its constructive role in the Nonaligned Movement and the Group of Six countries. They emphasized that collaboration between the Soviet Union and India in the international arena is an important factor of strengthening peace and security in Asia and throughout the world.

The sides expressed confidence that friendship and cooperation between the USSR and India will continue to develop and grow stronger for the good of our peoples.

A.F. Dobrynin had a meeting with E.M.S. Namboodiripad, general secretary of the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPM) Central Committee, and H.K. Surjit and M. Basavapunniah, members of the CPM Central Committee Politburo.

There was a comradely exchange of opinions on certain issues concerning the international situation and Soviet-Indian relations. The sides gave a high appraisal of the dynamic development of cooperation between the two countries, which has been given new and powerful impetus as a result of M.S. Gorbachev's visit to India in November 1986.

The secretary of the CPSU Central Committee talked about CPSU activity to restructure and accelerate the socioeconomic development of Soviet society and about the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

E.M.S. Namboodiripad expressed his support for the CPSU's political course, noting that the transformations being made in the USSR are in the interests of all progressive forces and strengthen the potential for universal peace. He informed those present of the political situation in the country and of the CPM's struggle for improvement in the working people's living standards and against the intrigues of imperialism and internal reaction.

The participants in the conversation expressed their satisfaction with cooperation between the CPSU and the CPM and reaffirmed their mutual desire to develop it further.

A session of the National Committee for the Defense of Freedom and National Unity was held here today to mark the meeting between the aktiv of this public organization and A.F. Dobrynin. The leaders of a number of political parties, members of parliament, eminent scientists, diplomats, lawyers, and journalists and well known Indian political and social figures took part in the session.

Addressing the session, Darbara Singh, chairman of the committee and a prominent figure in the Indian National Congress-Indira, gave a high appraisal of the state of Indian-Soviet relations, which have become an important factor for peace and stability in the international arena. The USSR, he said, has always stayed with India in its times of difficulty. Darbara Singh indicated the urgent need to develop relations with the Soviet Union in every way possible. This is particularly important now, when certain external forces are fostering plans to destabilize the republic, attempting to force it to change its independent political course, and inciting internal reactionaries to stir up differences between religious communities, he noted.

C. Rajeshwara Rao, general secretary of the CPI National Council, made a fervent appeal for the country's patriotic forces to unite. He urged all of the country's political parties to cast aside their differences and act as one against their common internal enemy -- communalism.

The speech by the leader of the CPI was supported by Nawal Kishore Sharma, general secretary of the Congress-I National Committee, who pointed out that a recent resolution adopted by this party's working committee contains an appeal to everyone who values the unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of India to unite and rebuff the forces of destabilization and communalism.

In his speech A.F. Dobrynin stressed the great significance of Soviet-Indian relations for both countries and spoke in favor of further developing the traditional bonds of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and India.

Reportage in India

For further reportage on the visit to India by Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, including his meeting with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, see the India section of the 22 May South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Departure 27 May

LD270739 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0627 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Delhi 27 May (TASS) A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who was in India on a friendly working visit at the invitation of the Indian Government and the leadership of the Indian National Congress-I Party departed for home today.

He was seen off at the Indira Gandhi international airport in Delhi by Narain Dutt Tiwari, India's minister of external affairs; Nawal Kishore Sharma, general secretary of the All-India Congress Committee; and other officials.

PRAVDA NOTES NGUYEN VAN LINH ADDRESS AT RALLY

PM261011 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Rally"]

[Text] On 20 May the working people of Moscow's Parizhskaya Kommuna footwear factory -- the leading enterprise of the Zarya Footwar Production Association -- cordially welcomed Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee.

The leader of the Vietnamese Communists and the comrades accompanying him on his visit to the USSR toured the enterprise's shops and inquired about the progress of restructuring in the work of the association which has switched to self-financing [samofinansirovaniye] and recoupment of its costs [samookupayemost].

A Soviet-Vietnamese friendship rally was then held. The leader of the fraternal party was greeted by association genera director A.A. Nikitin, seamstress O.F. Shulzhenko, and team leader P.P. Nikolashin. They emphasized that his visit to our country demonstrated the mutual interest of our countries' peoples in collaboration to resolve the socioeconomic tasks facing them.

The speakers noted that there is considerable potential for enhancing the effectiveness of Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation, which demands a creative quest for new forms of this cooperation such as direct links between enterprises and the creation of joint enterprises for the production of goods needed by both states. The speakers emphasized that Soviet people express full support for the course of the Vietnamese people toward the renewal of all aspects of their country's life.

The rally was addressed by Nguyen Van Linh, who was warmly welcomed by those present. We are glad, he said, to visit the Parizhskaya Kommuna Factory and to meet its labor collective, which forms part of the heroic Soviet working class which staged the October Revolution, has for 70 years remained in the forefront of the Soviet people's revolutionary struggle, and is now marching in the vanguard of the great restructuring initiated by the CPSU. Allow me, comrades, to convey to you the most sincere greetings from the working class and the working people of fraternal Vietnam and to wish you great new victories.

Every trip to Lenin's motherland -- the cradle of world socialism -- evokes in every Vietnamese citizen feelings of profound emotion and boundless admiration for the glorious achievements of the CPSU and the Soviet people.

We find our current visit to the USSR particularly inspiring since our countries' peoples and all progressive mankind are currently preparing to mark the 70th anniversary of Great October -- an event of worldwide dimensions and unique in its historic significance and the depth of its impact on the minds and hearts of people.

Over the past 70 years the Soviet people have achieved brilliant successes in the defense and building of their motherland and have contributed decisively to changing the situation in the world. [paragraph continues]

By its heroic feets in the war against fascism, the 42d anniversary of the victory in which we have celebrated recently, the Soviet people made an extremely important contribution to the creation of the world socialist system both in Europe and in Asia and subsequently also in Latin America and promoted the steady development of the movement for people's national independence and vital rights, democracy, and peace.

The revolutionary spirit and creative potential of the Soviet people once again found a vivid expression in the restructuring of all aspects of social life and the dynamic foreign policy activity of the Soviet state that are being implemented in the light of the decisions of the 27th Congress and the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum. The first results of the transformations have already provided graphic evidence of the advantages and great vitality of socialism. They opened up broad prospects for successful progress by the Land of the Soviets toward new heights in its development.

Vietnamese Communists and the entire Vietnamese people follow the efforts of the fraternal Soviet people in the implementation of the restructuring with a feeling of profound confidence and fully and entirely support the peace initiatives put forward by the CPSU, the Soviet state, and Comrade M.S. Gorbachev with a view to upholding peace throughout the world, countering the arms race both on earth and in space, and moving forward toward a nuclear-free and nonviolent world. The Soviet Union's contribution to the cause of the defense of peace serves as powerful source of inspiration for the development of the broad movement of peace-loving forces. The USSR has become a reliable bulwark of world peace.

Guided by the decisions of the Sixth CPV Congress, our party and the entire Vietnamese people are making tremendous efforts geared to a renewal of all aspects of economic and social life with a view to stabilizing the country's socialist industrialization. In order to fulfill this complex task and achieve the key aims that have been set, we are currently conducting a reorganization of the structure of production and capital investment and focusing our efforts on the implementation of three major national economic programs -- the food program, the program for the production of consumer goods, and the program for the production of goods for export. We are also conducting a renewal of the economic mechanism aimed at eliminating bureaucratic methods of work, ensuring a transition to relations of full economic accountability [khozraschet] and to methods of socialist management.

At the same time we have launched a campaign to enhance the militancy and leading role of the party, increase the effectiveness of the work of the state apparatus, and expand the rights of the working people in running the country -- all of which represent essential preconditions for the achievement of the aims set by the party congress.

In the sphere of foreign policy the CPV and the Vietnamese people are fully determined to do everything they can to further strengthen the combat solidarity and all-around cooperation with the USR and the other socialist countries, to consolidate and develop special relations with fraternal Laos and Cambodia, and to make a worthy contribution to the people's joint struggle for peace, national independence, democracy, and socialism, and also for peace and security in Asia and the Pacific region. We are also prepared to expand our relations with countries belonging to the other sociopolitical system on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and we seek to transform Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation.

At present our people are experiencing extremely serious difficulties. Nonetheless, guided by the spirit of renewal which pervades the decisions of the Sixth CPV Congress, and relying on the disinterested assistance and support of the USSR and the other fraternal countries, our people will withstand all trials without fail and will successfully resolve the tasks in building and defending socialist Vietnam in the name of peace and social progress in this important part of the world.

Since the time of its inception to today the Vietnamese revolution has been inseparably connected with V.I. Lenin's immortal teaching and with the great ideas of the October Revolution. It is precisely thanks to the fact that the Vietnamese people have always faithfully followed the path indicated by V.I. Lenin and the October Revolution under the wise leadership of President Ho Chi Minh, Indochina's great Communist, that the Vietnamese people have developed from a nation of slaves which did not even feature on the map into a free nation which has won the respect of the peoples of the world and is advancing along the path of building world's most progressive society -- a socialist society.

All the Vietnamese people's victories are connected with the sincere support and disinterested assistance of the fraternal Soviet people.

During the years of struggle against the French colonizers and, in particular, during the grim years of the war of resistance against the U.S. aggression, our people always felt that they had at their side the Soviet people, who gave us all-around material assistance and moral support and helped us to stand firm and emerge victorious. During the years of peaceful building the Soviet people have continued to help us tremendously. With Soviet assistance hundreds of socialist economic projects have been built on Vietnamese soil. Thousands of sons and daughters of the Soviet Union have worked and continue to work selflessly on Vietnam's construction sites, helping us to overcome difficulties and privations, helping the Vietnamese people to build socialism. Tens of thousands of sons and daughters of the Vietnamese people are studying and working on Soviet soil, surrounded with the care and understanding of Soviet people.

The USSR's assistance and support was one of the decisive factors in the Vietnamese people's historic victories in socialist building and the defense of the motherland.

The fraternal, comradely relations between our parties and peoples, which were initiated even before our people won their independence and which were developed during the subsequent decades, gained a new vitality and were raised to a qualitatively new level with the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation whose 10th anniversary we will be marking next year. On the basis of this historic treaty, close contacts between our countries, their joint action at various levels, and their cooperation in politics, the economy, science, technology, culture, ideology, and other spheres are being steadily strengthened and developed and are assuming new scope and depth.

The crystal pure, loyal friendship which links our parties and peoples is a genuine example of relations of a new type between peoples that are building socialism.

The results of our meetings and talks with Comrade M.S. Gorbachev and other leaders of the CPSU and the Soviet state over the past few days and the documents which have been signed give us reason to claim that our visit to the Soviet Union has been crowned with great success and has contributed to the further consolidation of the cohesion and indestructible unity between our parties and peoples. All this represents a new source of inspiration for our people in their struggle to overcome their trials and tribulations and to successfully implement the tasks set by the Sixth party congress.

We have learned with great joy that the collective of your factory has made and continues to make a worthy contribution to the development of Vietnamese-Soviet cooperation. As a result of the agreement signed between our countries in the sphere of the light industry, the development of links between the collective of your factory and our enterprises will undoubtedly be given a new powerful boost.

Implementing the behests of President Ho Chi Minh, who worked tirelessly to strengthen Vietnamese-Soviet friendship, our party, as the Sixth CPV Congress has confirmed, has always viewed and continues to view close solidarity and all-around cooperation with the Soviet Union as the cornerstone of its foreign policy activity and a reliable guarantee for the successful building of socialism on Vietnamese soil. This is the embodiment of the innermost feelings of every Vietnamese citizen which are passed on from generation to generation and will live in our hearts forever. Our party and people will do everything in order to preserve and augment this valuable asset.

On behalf of the Communists and the entire Vietnamese people, Nguyen Van Linh expressed sincere gratitude to the CPSU, the Soviet Government, the working class, and all Soviet working people for their tremendous support for and assistance to the Vietnamese revolution.

During his visit to the enterprise Nguyen Van Linh was accompanied by B.N. Yeltsin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, and V.A. Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

On the same day Nguyen Van Linh met with activists of the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society.

V.V. Tereshkova, chairman of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and other speakers emphasized the Soviet people's desire to further strengthen the links between the two fraternal countries on the basis of an even more effective utilizaton of all reserves for cooperation.

The party, the government, and the people of Vietnam, Nguyen Van Linh said, value highly the activities of the Soviet-Vietnamese Friendship Society. It has made an important contribution to the cause of strengthening cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. In past years the society's members have played an active role in the implementation of the course toward the further rapprochement of our peoples in the interests of their deepened collaboration and the strengthening of the positions of socialism and the struggle for peace and security.

Nguyen Van Linh expressed gratitude for the interest and attention shown by broad strata of the Soviet public and members of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations for the life of the Vietnamese citizens who are studying and working in Lenin's motherland. [paragraph continues]

The present visit, he emphasized, indicates that the friendship and cooperation between our countries have entered a qualitatively new and important stage of development.

Nguyen Van Linh visited the USSR Exhibition of National Economic Achievements. He toured the "Consumer Goods and Services for the Population" pavilion.

The guest was accompanied by A.P. Biryukova, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other officials.

Farewell Ceremony

LD210918 Moscow Television Service in Russian 0703 GMT 21 May 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, who was in our country at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee on an official friendly visit, left Moscow for home today.

Just before his departure a festive farewell ceremony took place in the Georgiyevskiy Hall of the Great Kremlin Palace for the general secretary of the CPV Central Committee. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev bade Nguyen Van Linh a cordial farewell. [video shows Gorbachev, Nguyen Van Linh at farewell ceremony.]

A convoy of vehicles accompanied by a motorcycle escort of honor set off from the Kremlin for the airport. The national flags of the SRV and the Soviet Union and banners of greetings were hung out on the streets and squares of the capital along the route.

At Vnukovo Airport Nguyen Van Linh was seen off by Comrades Ligachev, Yeltsin, Biryukova, and other officials.

An honor guard was assembled on the tarmac. The commander of the honor guard presented the report. The national anthems of Vietnam and the Soviet Union were played. Comrades Nguyen Van Linh and Ligachev inspected the line of Soviet servicemen. The ceremonial send-off ended with a parade of servicemen of the honor guard. [video shows inspection of honor guard then Ligachev and other Soviet figures bidding farewell to Nguyen Van Linh]

FURTHER ON EVENTS DURING GORBACHEV TRIP TO ROMANIA

Ceausescu Friendship Rally Speech

PM280925 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May 87 Second Edition pp 1-2

[TASS report on speech by N. Ceausescu, secretary general of the RCP and Romanian president, at 26 May Bucharest Romanian-Soviet friendship rally: "Speech by Comrade N. Ceausescu"; carried under the general heading "Making Working People's Lives Richer and Fuller. Romanian-Soviet Friendship Rally"]

[Text] Dear Comrade Gorbachev!

Dear comrades and friends!

From the rostrum of this major people's assembly of working people from socialist Romania's capital I convey ardent comradely greetings and best wishes to Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and to the other Soviet guests currently visiting our country, on behalf of our party and state leadership and the entire people, and also on my own behalf.

At the same time, I would like to take this opportunity to convey to you meeting participants, to all the capital's working people, and to our entire people ardent greetings and best wishes for health and happiness and for bigger and bigger successes in all your activity.

Comrade Gorbachev's visit to Romania is a reflection of the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation existing between our countries, parties, and peoples -- relations which have constantly developed in all spheres of activity during the years of socialism. We have firmly based these relations on the noble principles of socialism -- complete equality of rights, respect for national independence and sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs, mutual advantage, and comradely mutual aid.

A particularly important role in the overall development of Romanian-Soviet relations has been played by reciprocal visits, summit talks, and accords, which each time have given a powerful new boost to our cooperation and collaboration in the political, economic, scientific, technical, cultural, and other spheres of activity. This time, too, during the visit and talks that I had with Comrade Gorbachev we reached a number of good agreements that provide a firm foundation and open up broad prospects for cooperation and collaboration between our countries and peoples in the political, economic, scientific, technical, cultural, and other spheres of mutual interest.

Noting that for a number of years there has been a certain lag in the development of economic relations, we agreed to act to eliminate this situation as quickly as possible and to ensure in the very near future the powerful development of cooperation, production sharing and specializations, and economic exchanges between our countries.

We resolved to take every measure with a veiw to ensuring the best possible fulfillment of the Long-Term Program for the Development of Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Between the USSR and Romania Through the Year 2000, in the belief that the provisions and tasks of this program open up broad prospects for developing economic, scientific, and technical ties in line with the growing potential enjoyed by our countries' national economies. [paragraph continues]

We also agreed to strengthen Romanian-Soviet cooperation within the CEMA framework with a view to solving a number of important questions of the economic development of our countries and all the CEMA states through joint efforts. We believe that this wholly accords with our peoples' interests, with their desire to ensure their own prosperity and happiness, with the cause of socialism and communism, and with the establishment of peace and cooperation.

Dear comrades,

Communists and our entire people make a high assessment of Soviet people's achievements in the 70 years since the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution and in implementing the historic decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress. We are following with interest the efforts and concerns of Soviet people and the CPSU aimed at restructuring society and developing socialist democracy and all aspects of economic and social life. We wholeheartedly wish the Soviet people well in achieving under the CPSU's leadership new and ever greater successes in labor, in the struggle to build a developed socialist society and communism in their homeland, in further boosting the country's economic and social might, and in the struggle for peace and international cooperation.

Dear comrades!

During the years of socialist building Romania, under the RCP's leadership, has also achieved major successes in its economic and social development and has turned from an underdeveloped country into an industrial and agraran country that is really on the upbeat. All these achievements and the profound revolutionary transformations that have taken place over the period show with the strength of indisputable facts just what a people can achieve when they are the genuine masters of their own destiny and, acting in close unity, consciously create their own free and independent future -- a future of prosperity and happiness!

In accordance with the decisions of the 13th RCP Congress we have devoted and continue to devote particular attention to developing and modernizing the country's productive forces and providing a powerful material and technical base. We have also been concerned about the rational siting of productive forces on the country's territory, ensuring on that basis harmonious development, the economic and social boosting of all the country's provinces, and equal working and living conditions for all the country's citizens irrespective of nationality in order to further boost the material and spiritual standard of the entire people's life, which is the supreme aim of party policy and the essence of the comprehensively developed socialist society which we are successfully building in Romania.

In the current 5-year plan we have set ourselves important new tasks in intensively developing industry, agriculture, science, education, and culture and in providing new quality in the work and lives of the entire people. We can say that we have all the conditions for successfully implementing the strategic task set by the 13th party congress of switching Romania to a higher stage of development, the stage of an averagely developed socialist country.

We have proceeded and continue to proceed on the basis that each stage --and, consequently, the new stage of socialist building too -- requires new forms of organizing management and planning to ensure the fullest correspondence between productive forces and production relations.

This also requires that, in accordance with objective laws, we act in a revolutionary spirit in eradicating everything old, obsolete, and out of step with new realities and boldly introduce everything that is new, represents the future in all spheres, and ensures the victory of socialism and communism.

At the same time, we have focused and continue to focus our entire activity on developing and improving workers-revolutionary democracy and creating a unified system of democratic organs to ensure broad and direct participation by the working class, all categories of working people, and the entire people in administering the activity of various sectors of economic and social life and all society. We have proceeded and continue to proceed on the basis of the thesis that socialism is built by the people and for the people, that the people are the determining factor in building a socialist and communist society.

For almost 20 years now all socioeconomic activity has been based on the principles of worker self-administration, self-management, and the new financial and economic mechanism.

In our activity for the democratic management of society we devote particular attention to strengthening the role of the RCP -- the vital center of the entire nation -- on the basis that the development of workers-revolutionary democracy presupposes as a essential factor the enhancement of the role and improvement of the activity of the party in leading all sectors of economic and social life and all society.

In all its activity in building socialism in Romania the RCP has steadily and creatively applied and continues to apply the principles of scientific socialism and general truths and laws under the specific conditions of our country.

Life and realities have demonstrated and continue to demonstrate by force of facts the diversity of the ways and forms of building socialism in particular countries. Only by taking account of this diversity and respecting each country's right to independently determine the ways and forms of its development on the basis of its specific conditions can the successful creation of a new system be ensured and cooperation and the growth of socialist forces as a whole be strengthened.

We believe that the results each socialist country achieves in its own socioeconomic development, in strengthening and deepening democracy, and in utilizing the great reserves and potential for progress inherent in the new system serve as a substantial contribution to the common socialist cause and to boosting its power and influence worldwide, and convincingly prove that socialism is the only system able to rid mankind of exploitation and oppression, to ensure genuine equality of rights for working people, and provide prosperity for the peoples, freedom, and peace.

Dear comrades! Within the framework of its general policy of developing international relations Romania devotes particular attention to constantly strengthening friendship and cooperation with our great neighbor, the Soviet Union.

At the same time, we are extensively developing cooperation and collaboration with all socialist countries and are actively participating in developing and improving cooperation, production sharing, and specialization within the CEMA framework in the interests of the socioeconomic development of each member, creation of the new system, and strengthening of socialism's might and prestige in the world.

At the same time, we are developing relations of cooperation with the developing and nonaligned countries as well as with the developed capitalist countries and all states irrespective of their social system.

We firmly base all our international relations on the principles of complete equality, national independence and sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs, mutual advantage, and the right of every people to free and sovereign development without any outside interference.

While making every effort to successfully implement socialist building in our country, we simultaneously devote particular attention to the struggle to ensure peace and cooperation internationally, on the basis of the conviction that it is only under conditions of peace, mutual understanding, and cooperation that our people -- just like all peoples, incidentally -- can ensure their free and independent socioeconomic development, progress, and prosperity.

Esteemed comrades!

The international situation continues to be particuarly serious and complex, mainly as a result of the intensification of the arms race and the accumulation of an enormous quantity of weapons -- particularly nuclear weapons -- which could destroy life on earth many times over. Certain military conflicts have continued and even exacerbated in recent years and there have been new acts of force, threats of the use of force, interference in internal affairs, and trampling of the independence and freedom of a number of states. The situation in the world economy has deteriorated considerably, particularly in the developing countries.

It can also be said at the same time that one of the characteristics of the current world situation is the intensification of the struggle for disarmament and peace and for the assertion of a new policy -- a policy of detente and cooperation among all states irrespective of their social systems. The peoples increasingly recognize the seriousness of the present situation and the danger posed by nuclear weapons to mankind's existence and life on earth itself. Never before have there been such large-scale actions by the peoples, international or regional conferences, and direct talks aimed at ensuring disarmament and peace.

The new situation created as a result of the appearance of new and exceptionally dangerous types of nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction requires new thinking and a new approach to the questions of war and peace -- an approach based on the fact that under current conditions a new world war and any war at all would be inconceivable. It is necessary to wholly eschew anachronistic, obsolete concepts claiming that nuclear arms promote the strengthening of defense capability, the security of states, and the maintenance of peace. On the contrary, they intensify danger and constantly increase the threat to peace and the lives of all the peoples. The peoples' real security is not guaranteed by the accumulation and development of new types of weapons but only by their complete destruction and elimination, the development of extensive economic, scientific, and technical cooperation among states, and the strengthening of collaboration among all nations with a view to producing democratic and constructive solutions to the important problems of the day and ensuring peace.

On the basis of these realities we believe that the fundamental question of our time is the ending of the arms race -- primarily the nuclear arms race -- the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, the substantial reduction of conventional arms, and the struggle for new equal relations, free cooperation, and lasting world peace. Mankind does not need nuclear arms -- be they strategic, medium-range, or shorter-range! Mankind needs peace, security, and a climate of trust and cooperation. [paragraph continues]

More than ever, all the peoples must pool their efforts and collaborate more and more closely in order to achieve disarmament and peace, eliminate nuclear weapons, and exclude war from society's life! Socialists and Communists have always opposed war and must do so even more now that arms such as nuclear weapons -- whose use would lead to the annihilation of life on earth -- have been created.

We welcomed and support the Soviet Union's proposals on the phased elimination of all nuclear arms. We have advocated and continue to advocate the separate solution of the various problems and aspects of nuclear and universal disarmament without making them contingent on each other [bez ikh vzaimnogo obuslovlivaniya]. Consistently hewing to this principled position, our country supports the Soviet Union's proposals to examine separately and reach agreement on the question of medium-range missiles in Europe, as well as the proposals concerning operational and tactical missiles, the withdrawal of these missiles from the CSSR and the GDR, and their complete destruction. We believe that on the basis of the proposals advanced by both the Soviet Union and the United States agreement could be reached this year on withdrawing medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe as a first step toward the removal of all nuclear arms from the continent and, ultimately, toward the complete elimination of nuclear weapons worldwide.

We are also in favor of the cessation of all nuclear weapon tests, which lead to the intensification of the arms race, increase the danger of war, and at the same time lead to serious environmental pollution. Everything must be done to halt the production of new nuclear weapons!

At the same time, we are in favor of resolute measures to reduce conventional armaments, the numerical strength of troops, and military expenditure. The vast resources which become available as a result of the reduction of military expenditure could be used for the needs of each country's socioeconomic development, and in particular to support the developing countries' efforts toward progress.

It must be candidly stated that without reducing military expenditure the fulfillment of plans and programs for the development of socialist and other countries is impossible. Disarmament and the reduction of military expenditure are an objective necessity for ensuring our countries' economic progress and the progress of all the peoples.

In the spirit of the proposals of the Warsaw Pact socialist countries on cutting conventional armaments by 25 percent before 1990, it is necessary to make every effort to switch to concrete measures in this area. Only last year Romania embarked -- on the basis of a national referendum in which nearly the entire people, including young people of 14 and over, participated -- on a unilateral 5-percent reduction in its armaments, troops, and military expenditure, thus demonstrating its will to act unswervingly in favor of disarmament and peace. We believe that the existing situation demands the most resolute switch from words to deeds, to concrete action on disarmament, the elimination of nuclear armaments, and the reduction of military expenditure. There is no question more important today than disarmament, safeguarding the supreme right of the peoples, of human beings to existence, to life, freedom, and independence, and to peace!

I must tell you, comrades, that during our talks yesterday and today with M.S. Gorbachev we discussed questions of bilateral relations and questions of disarmament. We noted with satisfaction the identical nature of fundamental positions and reached the conclusion that our countries and all the socialist states must act to safeguard disarmament and peace.

The countries of Europe -- the continent on which a vast quantity of both nuclear and conventional armaments has accumulated -- have a big responsibility in the struggle for disarmament and peace. All the European countries must join forces and collaborate in the most active way to ensure disarmament, mutual understanding, security, and peace on the continent.

We appeal to the countries of the West and of NATO to abandon their erroneous position and realize that the existence of all the peoples and the peoples of Europe depends on the elimination of nuclear weapons, to tell the peoples the truth, and to abandon the illusion that nuclear weapons are sited.

The interests of Europe, of each inhabitant of Europe, and of the peoples and the interests of the younger generation, children, and the future demand that we do all we can to rid Europe of nuclear weapons.

Romania consistently advocates the development of extensive cooperation among the Balkan countries, the settlement via talks of all the problems that still exist between some of them, and the transformation of the Balkans into a zone of good-neighborliness, peace, and cooperation free from nuclear and chemical weapons and from foreign forces and military bases. We support the creation of such nuclear-free zones in central and northern Europe and in other continents as well.

In conditions of the increasingly close interdependence which marks modern development, it is necessary to totally abandon the use of force and the threat of force in international relations and embark on the settlement of all disputes between states entirely by peaceful means, by talks. We believe in particular that it is necessary to increase efforts to implement a global, lasting, and just peace in the Near East. Our country has always advocated holding an international conference on the Near East under UN auspices with the participation of all interested sides, including the PLO as legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

We believe at the same time it is necessary to put an end to the war between Iran and Iraq and to immediately embark on settling the problems between the two countries by political means, on the basis of talks.

We also advocate the settlement of all disputes in Asia, Africa, and other regions of the world by political means. Life shows that there is no question -- however complex -- which could not be solved through talks, provided one proceeds on the basis of the interests of peace and cooperation and the right of every people to develop freely and independently.

One of the most serious problems of the day is the continuing and even deteriorating state of underdevelopment which affects a considerable proportion of mankind. It is necessary to make every effort to eliminate this anachronistic situation and establish a new international economic order based on complete equality and justice and designed to facilitate more rapid progress for all the peoples, above all backward countries, to give all nations wide access to the achievements of modern science and technology, and to ensure a stable world economy.

In the world today it is necessary to solve many problems, and all states, irrespective of size and social system, must participate in their solution in conditions of full equality. Small and medium-sized, developing, and nonaligned countries, which are directly interested in conducting a policy of cooperation, independence, and peace and can make an important contribution to the positive course of all international life, have an important part to play along with the big powers.

In this respect we believe the role of the United Nations and other international organizations in the solution of serious problems of international life, in the democratization of interstate relations, and in the conduct of a policy of cooperation, detente, and peace must increase. From this lofty platform I want to stress with great satisfaction our countries' active cooperation in the United Nations and in the world arena as a whole in the struggle for disarmament and for security, cooperation, and peace the world over.

We believe our peoples' desire for peace requires strengthening this cooperation between our parties and peoples, between all the socialist countries, with all forces struggling for peace.

The RCP will extensively develop relations with the other communist parties and will continue its extensive actions to strengthen cooperation and solidarity among the communist and workers parties on the basis of complete equality and respect for the independence of each party and its right to independently develop its own political life and revolutionary strategy and tactics in accordance with the specific conditions of the country in which it is carrying out its activities.

We are also developing cooperation with socialist and social democratic parties and national liberation movements, with democratic and progressive parties and anti-imperialist forces the world over.

We are convinced that through a concerted struggle by the peoples and the progressive and advanced forces of the whole world it is possible to provide mankind with a peaceful and happy future and to create a fairer and better world -- a world of cooperation, mutual understanding, and peace.

I want to express once again the belief that Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to our country will mark an important new stage in strengthening friendship and cooperation between our parties and peoples in the interests of both countries and the cause of socialism, peace, and progress.

I ask you, dear Comrade Gorbachev, to take away with you the feelings of warm friendship and solidarity the Communists and the entire Romanian people have for the Communists and peoples of the Soviet Union and our wish for new, even bigger victories in the fulfillment of the important decision of the 27th CPSU Congress, in all activity in socialist and communist building, and in the struggle for disarmament, security, and peace the world over!

In conclusion, N. Ceausescu proposed a toast in honor of fraternal friendship and cooperation between the RCP and CPSU, between Romania and the USSR, between the Romanian and Soviet peoples, and for the strengthening of the unity and collaboration of the socialist countries and revolutionary, democratic, and progressive forces of the whole world, and for world peace.

TV Report on Plant Visit

LD262305 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 26 May 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; unidentified special correspondent's video report from Bucharest on Gorbachev's visit to "23 August" machine-building plant; Ceaususcu, workers speak in Romanian with superimposed Russian translation]

[Text] [Announcer] Our special correspondents report from Bucharest:

[Unidentified correspondent] Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev was greeted warmly and cordially at the Bucharest "23 August" machine-building works, where he arrived together with Nicolae Ceausescu. The Soviet Union is the leading partner of this enterprise. The first conversations between Mikhail Sergeyevich and the workers began right away on the territory of the plant premises, conversations that were warm, friendly and frank. [video shows Gorbachev arriving with Ceausescu in open-top vehicle, crowds waving flags; shots of him shaking hands with workers and chatting to them]

And then there was a meeting between the Soviet leader and members of the workers' council, an organ which is elected at a general assembly of the labor collectives. On behalf of the 20,000 workers of the factory, chairman of the council (Usret Redukanu) warmly greeted the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The leaders of the enterprise told Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev of their achievements, successes and problems. The scale of its production is enormous. It is not for nothing that the works is often called in the country the flagship of Romanian industry. Members of the workers' council replied to questions put by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, particularly about the technical standard of the output produced here and its quality, increasing labor productivity, the smoothness of production, and the social and domestic conditions of the staff of the works. Comrade Gorbachev was interested in arranging specific cooperation between the enterprise in Bucharest and a scientific-production association in the Soviet city of Sumy.

At the conclusion of the meeting Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev addressed the activists of the works: [video shows Gorbachev and Ceausescu sitting in a room listening as a worker explains something to them with the aid of diagrams; shots of the audience, Medvedev seated in the front row, then Gorbachev addressing the audience]

[Begin recording] [Gorbachev] It was of interest to me to hear about your works. I read materials about your works, when I was preparing to visit it. I had an idea of it. Well, you have serious plans for the 5-year plan. I would like to wish you success, and say in a couple of words, that in my talks with Comrade Ceausescu, economic matters, matters concerning economic cooperation, occupied an important place, both yesterday and today.

It is no longer easy for us to enhance economic cooperation if we just step up the trade turnover. Cooperation, specialization, direct ties are needed. And when we are ready, also the creation of joint enterprises. Provided, of course, that there is a mutual desire. But desire apart, our economy also presses us here considerably. We must either develop our own ties and step up the economic cooperation in the framework of the CEMA, or look for other ties elsewhere: The situation on the world market is very tight, and there are sharks of international imperialism operating there who always want, as it were, to sneak up on our socialist countries' economy. And they succeed in that -- take that into account. That is why the fact that we are going to expand our cooperation -- and it is based on socialist principles, after all, on coincidence of interests, and not on the basis of who cheats whom -- is a completely different situation which creates reliability in developing the economies of all countries, an independent nature, and then we base our political relations on material relations which are even more solid as a basis. We have reached a new stage now. Before there was just trade and here or there ties of cooperation, but that was not very much, and now we ought to master those new relations.

There are specific things in economic development and mechanisms, that is why difficulties are bound to arise; and they have already emerged, real difficulties. But they are surmountable. That is why we have paid a great deal of attention to it with Comrade Ceausescu. I criticized the Romanian side, and Comrade Ceausescu, the Soviet side. Nevertheless, we have agreed to instruct our governments, economic departments, to do a considerable amount of work in the near future to bring out opportunities for expanding cooperation. That is why we hope your trip [Gorbachev gestures toward someone in audience, off camera] together with comrades will have a follow-up, it will have a follow up. And as for you, we expect you to turn out good products.

Last year in November when we, the general secretaries, met in Moscow, we had a comprehensive discussion on all issues of cooperation. When we talked about the economy, we agreed to make greater demands of each other concerning the technical level and quality of products. Let us also behave that way, not treating each other as dumping sites for substandard products. So far, it has pretty much been like that: selecting products to export to the West -- to earn hard currency -- and selling products to each other of inferior quality. How can that strengthen socialism? If products are of low quality, with low technical indices, how can one expect to raise labor productivity with them? And how shall we outstrip, compete with capitalism? We need to restructure in that aspect, to make demands of each other in an honest and direct way. We have agreed on that as well, that was why [laughs] I asked you about your potential, you see. But my impression was that you had thought that all over thoroughly, and the fact that your scientific center is also taking part in mapping out prospects shows that the comrades have a very responsible attitude to resolving the task.

As far as our relations are concerned, Comrade Ceausescu and I expressed first of all satisfaction over their high level. But this is not enough. We need to go further -- and we came to agreement on this -- and I will think the matter over so that our relations become broader and more intensive, in the sphere of culture and science, in exchanges, sport and tourism. We should get closer to each other. When peoples know each other well and exchange experience, then politics, high-level politics, rests on solid foundations. Comrade Ceausescu, have I exaggerated anything? [laughter after Gorbachev remarks are translated into Romanian]

[Ceausescu] I want to say a few words: They should jointly implement cooperation in production, in joint production of certain types of goods, output, and I hope that we [words indistinct] our enterprise, "23 August," this direction is particularly obligatory.

With Comrade Gorbacahev we understood each other well. Implementation of these accords should be carried out by the workers' councils, the directors of enterprises, ministries, and Romanian and Soviet enterprises, and including party organizations. Otherwise our accords will simply not be implemented.

[Gorbachev] Those are good wishes. And we need real achievements and real advancement forward along the path of progress, both economic and social. [applause] [end recording]

[Correspondent] After a detailed conversation with members of the working people's council, there was a tour of the shops. The "23 August" works is, in truth, a gigantic production complex. Suffice it to say that today its five specialized enterprises manufacture locomotives; diesel assemblies; and equipment for ferrous metallurgy; the petrochemical; and cement industries. Numerous conversations with the workers ensue. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev goes up to a group of workers at a compressor shop.

What about the tools, are you satisfied with them or not? Do you think some of them need improving?

[Unidentified worker] Yes, some do.

[Gorbachev] Which, for example?

[Worker] We have various other machines with which we are satisfied, and precisely for the engines that we produce. [as heard]

[Gorbachev] And what is your mood?

[Worker] The mood is good and healthy.

[Gorbachev] Do you always have work to do?

[Worker] Yes.

[Gorbachev] How long have you been working at this plant?

[Worker] Five years.

[Gorbachev] And how old are you?

[Worker] Twenty-three.

[Gorbachev] That is good, good. You have the future before you. [end recording]

[Announcer] Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev made an entry in the book for guests of honor. It says, in particular: It was with great interest that I familiarized myself with the plant and learned about the labor collective's achievements, problems, and plans for the future. The output bearing your trade mark is well known outside Romania's borders, too, including the USSR. It shows graphically how far Romanian industry has advanced during the years of socialist construction. I wish you with all my heart further successes in work, great happiness, health, and the realization of your hopes and plans.

In memory of his visit to the enterprise, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev was presented with a souvenir.

[Begin recording] [Gorbachev] Thank you very much indeed. I would like to say that I am very pleased that I have had an opportunity to familiarize myself, although briefly, with your collective's activity. I have been left with interesting impressions. I am pleased that you are showing care along all the main lines — in technical equipment, economy, social conditions, workers' qualification. Therefore, I wish you great successes. And in memory of our stay here I would like to leave this sculpture here. I think you have so much room and space here that you will find a place for it too.

[Unidentified man] We will find a very good place for it in our club.

[Gorbachev] I convey to all the working people of your enterprise heartfelt greetings from the working class of our country and from me personally. I wish you great successes and hope that our cooperation will grow in strength.

[Unidentified man] Thank you for your good words. [applause] [end recording]

IZVESTIYA SEES 'MALICIOUS' FUSS OVER DANUBE PROJECT

PM271013 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 87 Morning Edition p 3

[Own correspondent V. Rodionov report under the "Press Attests" rubric: "Malicious Campaign"]

[Text] Budapest -- The newspaper NEPSZABADSAG has published a commentary on the fuss kicked up in the West, particularly by Radio Free Europe, over the fact that a group of Austrian citizens was forced to leave Hungarian territory.

The Austrians in question, who included members of parliament from the Green Party, distributed leaflets in Budapest subways inciting people to oppose the Hungarian government's decision to build a hydroengineering complex on the Danube. This is not the first time that the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros complex, built jointly by Hungary and Czechoslovakia with the participation of Austrian firms, has been the subject of unscrupulous political speculation disguised as concern for environmental protection. As a matter of interest, NEPSZABADSAG recalls, the construction is being conducted under the strictest ecological control using experience gained by Austrian hydraulic engineers when building similar installations on Austrian territory.

The Hungarian public expresses its confidence that the malicious campaign will not harm the good-neighbor relations existing among the countries of the Danube region.

PRAVDA REPORTS HONECKER TALKS WITH INTERIOR MINISTER

PM260917 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 87 Second Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Reception in Berlin"]

[Text] Berlin, 19 May -- E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, received A.V. Vlasov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of internal affairs, here today.

The GDR leader briefed him on the progress in fulfilling the 11th SED Congress decisions in all spheres, on the creative initiatives of the republic's working people, and also on the measures aimed at comprehensively strengthening and ensuring the security of the German socialist state.

The USSR minister of internal affairs spoke about the process of restructuring in the Soviet Union since the 27th CPSU Congress, dwelling in particular in the tasks of Soviet law enforcement organs.

At the meeting a high assessment was made of cooperation between the two countries' law enforcement organs.

AEROFLOT PLANE HIJACKED TO SWEDEN 27 MAY

LD281326 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS -- An Aeroflot plane, Antonov-2, was hijacked to Sweden on May 27.

The criminal act was committed by Svistunov, born in 1963, who was discharged from Aeroflot in 1985. THe man lived on unearned incomes over the past two years.

The Soviet side requested the Swedish authorities to extradite the criminal and return the plane and property on board.

GERMAN LANDS LIGHT PLANE IN RED SQUARE

AU290716 Paris AFP in English 0633 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] Moscow, May 29 (AFP) -- A West German light plane landed on Moscow's Red Square late on Thursday, an eyewitness said, adding that the plane's two occupants and the aircraft itself had been taken away by police.

The witness said the white Cessna plane, marked with the letters ECJB, had circled the huge square three times before touching down at around 7:30 p.m. (1530 GMT) near the Saint Basil Cathedral, with its nose pointing towards the Kremlin.

In Helsinki, authorities said Friday they believed the plane was one reported "disappeared" Thursday and that Finnish rescue teams had been searching for it all night. They said the pilot was West German and announced he was flying to Stockholm when he took off from Helsinki Thursday afternoon.

In Moscow, the witness said there was a man and a young woman aboard. Nothing was known of their motives.

Some six hours later the plane was put on to a lorry which took it under police escort to Moscow's Sheremetevo airport.

In Helsinki, Finnish authorities had been searching all night for the plane, thought to have crashed in the sea off Finland's southern coast. An oil slick was spotted in the sea but divers did not find any plane, authorities said.

Like the Moscow plane the aircraft was a Cessna and marked with the letters ECJB, authorities said.

The Cessna 172B, owned by a flying club in Hamburg, left Helsinki at 12.20 local time (09-20 GMT), and the Finnish police said there was only one occupant, a West German about 20 years old.

Soon after he left the flight controllers noticed that the pilot had made an "error" and was heading southwards instead of towards Stockholm in the southwest.

The search was started immediately. Three helicopters and four navy vessels took part and 17 divers were sent to a spot where an oil slick had been seen.

The Finnish authorities said they had asked the Soviet Union to confirm that the plane was the same, but so far they had not received an answer.

TASS CITES UK PAPER ON ROGERS' REPORTED DOCUMENT

LD241053 Moscow TASS in English 0804 GMT 24 May 87

[Text] London May 24 TASS -- NATO's leading quarters have prepared plans to destabilize and topple the British Government if the forthcoming general election on June 11 is won by the opposition Labour Party which is for removing U.S. nuclear arms from Britain and pursuing a non-nuclear policy.

The newspaper SUNDAY TELEGRAPH reported today that the plan for the effective overthrow of the government of a country friendly to the United States was formulated in a report prepared for President Reagan by General Bernard Rogers, supreme allied commander in Europe.

The top-secret document says that a Labour victory would be "the single most damaging blow to NATO since the alliance's formation".

It details a series of military, political and economic measures to make a new Labour Government face "a political crisis", with all ensuing consequences, within weeks of assuming office.

Among other things, it recommends the President in the event of a Labour victory to withdraw American military personnel and weapons from Britain, impose an immediate moratorium on the sharing of military information with that country and remove British nationals from the senior NATO posts at once -- without undertaking talks with the new Labour Government.

These measures, the report says cynically, would plunge Britain into conflict with its European allies in NATO, prompt massive dismissals of Britons currently employed at U.S. military bases, aggravate the already very serious problem of unemployment to the extreme and, as a consequence, trigger off a political crisis in the country.

The SUNDAY TELEGRAPH said the report was being examined by President Reagan and his advisers and was expected to form the basis of presidential policy in the event of a Labour victory.

The paper called it "political dynamite" since the very existence of such a report is graphic evidence of the hyprocrisy of Washington's assurances of its "non-interference" in the domestic affairs of other nations, including its closest allies.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON CHIRAC MOSCOW VISIT

'Frank' Talks End

PM181545 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 May 87 Second Edition

[TASS report under general heading: "Soviet-French Talks End"]

[Text] Talks ended in the Kremlin on 16 May between Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac. Also taking part in the talks were Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, foreign minister of the USSR, and French Minister for External Relations Jean-Bernard Raimond.

A number of important issues, as well as complications that have arisen in Soviet-French relations, were discussed in a frank, [otkrovennyy], fundamental [printipialnyy], and concrete manner, in the spirit of yesterday's conversation between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central committee, and the prime minister.

It was stressed from the Soviet side that political will and concrete actions from both sides are needed to put the relations back on the rails of mutual understanding, respect and mutually beneficial cooperation. The Soviet Union has this will, and the Soviet policy vis-a-vis France is free from bias and time-serving considerations.

Soviet-French cooperation, which concerns both sides, depends to a large degree on how far the French Government's statements on the wish to open a new page in relations between the two countries will be backed by real deeds. This refers, first and foremost, to political contacts, mutual understanding, and cooperation on the key issues of detente, disarmament and security, and to both countries' constructive contribution to improving the situation in Europe and worldwide.

This also applies to ways of overcoming difficulties that have arisen in the field of trade and economy, to a slight drop in the volume of bilateral trade. Agreements exist between the two countries on taking joint efforts to expand trade turnover. The Soviet side intends to stick to them and explore possibilities of increasing trade.

Nikolay Ryzhkov stressed that further developing trade and economic exchanges and improving their balance are possible only if the French side is prepared in earnest to expand equal and mutually beneficial ties. This presupposes the removal of all kinds of obstacles and restrictions on Soviet exports to France and on the purchases of French equipment.

The Soviet side reminded that during French President Francois Mitterrand's visit to the USSR in 1986, both sides expressed interest in using such advanced forms of business relations as jointly realizing economic projects, industrial cooperation and setting up joint ventures. One has to state, however, that in reality the position of the French side on these issues was marked by restraint.

Jacques Chirac stated readiness to render assistance in developing these new forms of cooperation. [paragraph continues]

An agreement was reached on setting up a provisional working group for the purpose.

The sides discussed questions of international economic relations and developing and expanding economic ties and exchanges between states belonging to different social systems. Opinion was expressed from the Soviet side that deeper involvement of all countries in the international division of labour on a just and equitable basis meets the interests of all countries of the international community. Establishment of normal relations between CEMA and the EEC and the joining by the Soviet Union to the GATT system will serve these goals.

Note was taken of the positive experience of Soviet-French cooperation in some important areas of science and technology, including outer space, nuclear energy, and medicine.

At the same time, it was stressed that the present-day rates of scientific and technological development call for further improvement of bilateral contacts and ties, for the preparation of new proposals and the introduction of amendments into plans and programs of cooperation. In this context, the sides favored the adoption of concrete measures to expand cooperation aimed at enhancing the reliability and safety of nuclear power stations.

The sides expressed satisfaction with the agreement that was reached on signing a protocol on the general terms of crediting machinery and equipment deliveries from France to the USSR between 1987 and 1990.

Nikolai Ryzhkov and Jacques Chirac noted the importance of traditional cultural ties between the USSR and France as an effective factor of improving mutual understanding and of bringing the peoples of the two countries closer together. They stated the determination of the two governments to promote the development and higher quality of cultural cooperation, free and normal access in their countries to cultural and information events and measures of the other side. With this aim in view, they have instructed relevant competent agencies to start talks on signing an intergovernmental agreement on cultural ties, at which new forms and areas of cooperation will be defined. The importance of extending the teaching of Russian in France was noted from the Soviet side.

Nikolay Ryzhkov stressed that the Soviet Union devotes much attention to strengthening ties with other countries in the humanitarian field. The French side's attention was drawn to the need for accelerating the resolution of a number of humanitarian issues concerning Soviet citizens in France.

The Soviet side expressed the hope that France will support the USSR's proposal on the convocation in Moscow of a representative conference on the development of humanitarian cooperation, where states -- participants in the all-European process -- could discuss the whole package of these problems.

Nikolay Ryzhkov stressed that a correct and objective evaluation of internal processes in our country is important for understanding the Soviet Union's approach to the questions pertaining to relations with France and problems of international relations. [paragraph continues]

The far-reaching, as a matter of fact revolutionary transformations being carried out in all fields of the Soviet society's life, are opening up new possibilities for strengthening mutual understanding and building up confidence, creating conditions for an even more active Soviet-French cooperation.

The Soviet side received with satisfaction the French Prime Minister's statement to the effect that they in France wish success to the Soviet society in the renovation of all aspects of its life, the important dynamic change taking place in the Soviet Union.

The sides voiced hope that the talks and conversations held, and the direct, honest, comparison of the views and stands of the sides would serve the improving of Soviet-French relations, the deepening of mutual understanding on the key issues of European and international security.

Jacques Chirac has invited the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers to pay a visit to France. The invitation has been received with gratitude. The invitation to the Soviet foreign minister to visit France was repeated.

On the same day a protocol was signed in an official ceremony in the Kremlin on the general terms of crediting the supply of machinery and equipment from France to the USSR over the period from 1987 to 1990.

Attending the ceremony were Comrades Ryzhkov and Shevardnadze; Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Comrade Ryabov, USSR ambassador to France; Jacques Chirac; Raimond; Pagniez, French ambassador to the USSR; and other participants in the Soviet-French talks.

On the Soviet side the protocol was signed by Comrade Malkevich, first deputy USSR minister of foreign trade, and on the French side by David, director of the French Center for Foreign Trade at the Ministry of the Economy and Finance and Expansion of the Private Sector.

Moscow Departure

LD161624 Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 16 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 16 TASS -- French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac has left Moscow for home today. At the airport he was seen off by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign minister, and other officials.

The French premier has been on an official visit in the Soviet (?Union at the invitation) of the Soviet Government.

IZVESTIYA: STARK ATTACK RECALLS TONKIN INCIDENT

PM281953 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Shevchenko dispatch under the rubric "The Persian Gulf": "Why the Stark Remained Silent"]

[Text] Kuwait — "I cannot understand why the Stark did not repel the attack by the Iraqi aircraft. The recording from the ship's data units which contained the information about its actions has been rendered useless," said U.S. Senator James Sasser, who has visited the Stark.

A 10-man group of U.S. military experts headed by Rear Admiral G. Sharp is currently investigating the circumstances of the incident involving the Stark in which 37 crew members perished. The results of the work of this commission are being kept secret.

The local press writes that the U.S. frigate, which was in the zone of active military operations of the Iraqi Air Force at the time, deliberately did not respond to the questions of the Iraqi pilot, thereby drawing fire upon itself. The "defenseless" Stark has done the Pentagon a good service by "providing the grounds" for building up U.S. military presence in the region. The incident in the Persian Gulf is reminiscent of the "Tonkin incident" which, as is known, provided the United States with a pretext for unleashing the war in Indochina.

The provocative U.S. actions in the Persian Gulf are causing growing concern here. "The U.S. military expansion in the Gulf is leading to an exacerbation of the situation and threatens the sovereignty and independence of the coastal states," the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN writes.

According to Tehran radio, Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian parliament, has declared that Iran will attack U.S. Navy ships in the Gulf zone, using its own helicopters manned by volunteers prepared to make any sacrifice. He called for the withdrawal of all foreign warships from the Persian Gulf.

Stark Defenses Described

PM271026 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 24 May 87 p 1

[SI PRESS SERVICE report: "In Dangerous Proximity"]

[Text] It is 7 days since the well known incident in the Persian Gulf involving the American warship Stark, but much remains unclear in this tragic story. The bodies of the 35 seamen who died have been sent to the United States from Manama, capital of Bahrain. Two are still missing, and there is every reason to consider them dead. At the same time a commentator on the French television channel TF-1, citing Pentagon figures, reported that the number of those lost without trace is 15. Another 25 seamen received burns and injuries.

The majority of observers are asking how the ship's commander was unable to forestall the missile attack. After all, the Stark's arsenal includes guns which fire metal balls in the direction of enemy radar, forcing missiles to fly past their target. Moreover it has the Vulcan antiaircraft system and the Phalanx system, capable of firing up to 3,000 rounds a minute at approaching missiles or aircraft. True, experts claim that Phalanx can only be effective if the stern, where the system is sited, is turned in the direction of the approaching target. [paragraph continues]

The frigate commander has reported that crew members saw the approaching missile, but there was not time to take measures to defend the ship.

Ner to the hole, which measures approximately 3 by 4.5 meters, a second, unexploded Exocet was found. A special explosives team was summoned to defuse the warhead. The discovery of this missile suggests that the frigate was attacked by two Iraqi fighters.

By all appearances many details of the attack and the consequences of the missile strike on the American frigate will be kept secret. Apparently, in the Pentagon's view, "they could tell a potential enemy too much."

It has become known that the United States is officially taking under its protection 11 Kuwaiti tankers, which will be placed under the control of American captains. In this connection State Department spokesman C. Redman was asked: Will an attack on these ships be regarded as an attack on the United States or on U.S. tankers? Redman stated that "these will be American ships." NBC television commentator C. Wallace believes that in order to protect the 11 Kuwaiti tankers American ships will have to approach close to the area of hostilities in the north of the Persian Gulf.

IRAN STRIKE PLAN REPORTEDLY AMONG U.S. GULF MOVES

LD282010 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 28 May 87

[From "The World Today" program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] According to a report by the ABC television network, the Pentagon has already devised a specific plan for a strike against Iran if Iranian forces attack U.S. ships or planes. According to ABC, what is proposed is the bombing of Iran's naval base at Bandar Abbas and airfields deep inside Iranian territory.

Meanwhile, the U.S. aircraft-carrier Constellation, which will reinforce the U.S. naval grouping there, is on its way to the Persian Gulf region. At the same time, Washington has stepped up its pressure on its NATO partners, demanding that they take part in the military preparations in the Persian Gulf and the setting up of the so-called multinational forces.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger went as far as saying that the Persian Gulf should be viewed as an area of NATO responsibility. However, the United States' allies are displaying an obvious reluctance to be drawn into another military adventure. [passage omitted]

U.S. NATO ALLIES REJECT APPEAL FOR NAVIES IN GULF

LD290433 Moscow TASS in English 2310 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Washington May 29 TASS -- NATO allies of the USA have rejected Washington's appeal to send their navies to the Persian Gulf, officials of the U.S. State Department announced.

In an UPI interview one of them said that the NATO defense ministers told Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger at their meeting in Brussels that the Persian Gulf was outside NATO's defense zone. The State Department, however, announced that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz intended to raise again the issue of sending ships by U.S. allies to the Persian Gulf. He is going to do this at a session of the NATO Council to be held at the level of foreign ministers in Reykjavik in June.

U.S. 'MISLEADING' PUBLIC ON ARMS SUPPLY TO IRAN

LD272023 Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 27 May 87

["Neutrality Washington-Style" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- Follows commentary by Boris Shabayev, a TASS political news analyst:

It might seem that nobody any longer wonders at the cynicism displayed by the Washington administration each time when it is out to mislead its own and world public. Incidentally, they on the banks of the Potomac find deception indispensable in their every day practices. Yet it is amazing how dashingly, in a genuine cowboy style some Washington officials juggle with the facts.

The most recent example of that is the statement by Charles Redman, a spokesman for the U.S. State Department, to the effect that the USA is allegedly not only maintaining neutrality in the Iran-Iraq war, but is also making efforts towards putting an end to it, by "leading the U.N. efforts" in that direction. Each of these claims is a sheer lie, a proof of which are the facts.

Once it was precisely the USA which armed the Iranian Army to the teeth, by supplying the shah regime with advanced weapons worth the enormous sum of 20 billion dollars. these weapons make to this day the bulk of the Iranian Army's combat might. But, as the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT weekly said, while spending more than five billion dollars a year on war against Iraq, Tehran was in a bad need of spares for the weapons, combat vehicles and aircraft. The U.S. Administration took advantage of that need in carrying out its scandalous Irangate operation. The clandestine, until a certain time, U.S. arms and spares supplies within the framework of that operation, whose true scale is yet to be found out, directly led to the procrastination of the fratricidal war, which already carries a toll of hundreds of thousands of human lives.

In publicising the Washington's [as received] sponsored staunch operation which was claimed to be designed to ensure a world-wide embargo on arms supplies to the warring parties, the U.S. Government officials admitted in private that it was in Washington's interests to add weight to certain elements in Iran through the supply of weapons to that country. For more detail one can turn to the issue of the TIME magazine of November 24 last year.

It is apt to recall the statements by prominent American politicians about the current administration's stand in the Iran-Iraq conflict. The actions of the White House, former U.S. President Gerald Ford said, are sprearheaded against Arab countries, Jimmy Carter, who succeeded him in that office, stresses that the clandestine arms supplies to Iran were carried out in violation of the Washington proclaimed policy of neutrality, and brought about a credibility gap in the attitude to the U.S. Administration. An even more explicit statement has been made by Barry Goldwater, a supporter of the current U.S. chief executive, who described the administration's actions as immoral and added that Reagan had got into a mess.

The wish of the powers that be in the USA to get out of that unenviable situation is understandable. Yet the clumsy attempts at misleading the public will hardly help them save their face.

TASS COMMENTS ON NATO MEDITERRANEAN EXERCISE

LD240955 Moscow TASS international Service in Russian 1125 GMT 23 May 87

[Excerpts] Rome 23 May (TASS) -- Aleksandr Tarakanov, a TASS correspondent, reports: NATO's latest naval maneuvers, held under the codename "Navocformed" [as received] have ended in the Mediterranean Sea. [passage omitted]

In spite of the demands of the region's people for it to be turned into a zone of peace and international cooperation, the NATO military -- headed by the United States which has declared the Mediterranean to be a zone of its interests -- is continuing to rattle its sabre. Instead of giving constructive replies to the Soviet Union's proposals concerning the withdrawal from the Mediterranean of ships carrying nuclear weapons, and the extension of agreed measures of trust to this important region of the world, the NATO strategists continue to step up the military potential here and stoke up tension. Suffice it to say that during the large-scale May exercises of the bloc navies and air forces, the forces of the U.S. 6th Fleet and of the United States' allies carried out "combat" operations from Gibraltar to the Dardanelles against a supposed "Eastern" adversary. The length of the zone of naval "battles" exceeded 4,000 km.

CPSU'S KATUSHEV DISCUSSES COOPERATION IN LIBYA

LD251650 Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 25 May 87

[Text] Tripoli May 25 TASS -- Konstantin Katushev, member of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, who is staying here at the head of a Soviet Government delegation, was received today by 'Umar Mustafa al Muntashir, secretary of the General People's Committee [GPC] of the Libyan Jamahiriyah. The talks covered questions pertaining to a further development of bilateral cooperation in various fields in the spirit of the traditional friendly relations existing between the USSR and Libya. The meeting was attended by Fawzi al-Shakshuki, secretary of the GPC for Civil Service of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, and USSR ambassador to Libya Pogos Akopov.

WARSHIPS TO PAY 'FRIENDLY VISIT' TO TRIPOLI PORT

LD281421 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 28 TASS -- A squadron of Soviet warships comprising a large anti-submarine ship, the Admiral Isachenkov, and a destroyer, the Bezuprechny, under Rear Admiral Vladimir Yegorov will pay an official friendly visit to Tripoli Port from June 2 to 5 in keeping with an agreement.

DFLP LEADER HAWATIMAH ARRIVES IN MOSCOW FOR TALKS

JN271856 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] The DFLP [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine] announced in Damascus that its Secretary General Nayif Hawatimah arrived in Moscow today for talks with Soviet officials on the Middle East situation in light of the recent PNC session and ways to preserve the national path of PLO unity. He will also discuss efforts to hod an Arab summit and an international conference for peace in the Middle East.

LEADERS DISCUSS AGRO-INDUSTRY AT CPSU CONFERENCE

PM290859 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "To Develop the Base for Output Processing and Storage. Conference in the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] A conference held in the CPSU Central Committee on 25 May examined progress in fulfilling party and government resolutions on the development of the agro-industrial complex' processing sectors and storage base, and the related tasks of party, soviet, and economic organs.

Taking part in the conference's work were V.I. Vorotnikov, L.N. Zaykov, and Ye.K. Ligachev, members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo; N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; V.P. Nikonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee; I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for Machine Building; and Yu.P. Batalin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosstroy.

Secretaries of union republic communist party central committees and party kraykoms and obkoms; ministers; chairmen of USSR state committees and the Tsentrosoyuz; leaders of republic, kray, and oblast agro-industrial committees; and senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the RSFSR Council of Ministers, the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, the AUCCTU, and the Komsomol Central Committee were invited to the conference. Leaders of some enterprises from processing sectors of the agro-industrial complex and of planning and design organizations also took part in the conference's work.

The conference was opened by Ye.K. Ligachev. He said that work on implementing the Food Program occupies a special position among the numerous issues where restructuring must result in far-reaching changes.

The Central Committee devotes enormous attention to the activity of the agro-industrial complex. In the recent past alone the CPSU Central Committee has examined the work of party organizations in the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Moldavia, the Central Asian republics, and Voronezh and several other oblasts in ensuring accelerated and stable development of crop farming and stockraising. The conference held at the beginning of the year discussed the tasks of party, soviet, and economic organs in implementing the CPSU Central Committee resolution on raising labor productivity in agriculture.

The measures being taken to strengthen the economy's agrarian sector, coupled with the restructuring the democratization taking place at the center and locally, are already producing certain results. There has been growth of agricultural production, especially of stockraising output. But many of the country's regions have still not achieved any noticeable improvement in providing foodstuffs for the population. The main point is that 15-20 percent of foodstuffs are still wasted while being transported from fields and stock units to store shelves and fail to reach the population.

For a long period of time proper attention was not paid to the processing sectors of industry and the storage base. The renewal of their production capital was much slower than in other sectors of social production. [paragraph continues]

A large proportion of the means of labor here are listed as operational but in fact have not been used productively for a long time. The underestimation of the development of these sectors has led to the capacities for processing agricultural output lagging considerably behind the potential for its production.

This is why the CPSU Central Committee and the country's government perceive the priority development of the agro-industrial complex' processing sectors and storage base as an immediate task. Expenditure on the elimination of losses here is 2-3 times less than on the additional production of the same type of output.

M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, drew attention to the decisive improvement of the storage and processing of agricultural output during meetings with the party and economic aktivs in the cities of Tselinograd and Kuybyshev, in the Far East's oblasts and krays, and in Latvia and Estonia. Ways and basic guidelines for resolving this most important task have been profoundly and comprehensively elaborated in the country. Targets for retooling, reconstruction, and capital construction in the storage and processing base have been fully included in the 12th 5-Year Plan. The funds channeled for these purposes are 1.5 times greater than in the previous 5 years.

But the work on accelerating the development of the agro-industrial complex processing sectors and storage base is still being done slowly and not on the planned scale.

The USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, construction, machine building, and other ministries and departments, and local party, soviet, and economic organs have still not implemented the necessary restructuring of work, and instances of tardiness and lack of discipline are tolerated. By no means all cadres at central and local level are concerned with the state of affairs in the processing and storage of agricultural output or the losses suffered by the national economy. Many leaders fail to take prompt practical measures to correct the prevailing situation, and do not fulfill the relevant decisions. This is why the CPSU Central Committee deemed it necessary to hold this conference.

V.S. Murakhovskiy delivered a report. He noted the important role played by the agro-industrial complex in the implementation of the party's strategic course of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and enhancing the people's prosperity. The agro-industrial complex accounts for about one-third of the gross social product produced in the national economy. The output of agriculture and the commodities produced from agricultural raw materials constitute approximately 70 percent of the personal consumption fund. Therefore, shortcomings in the work of any component of the agro-industrial complex have an immediate impact on the supplies for the population and on people's general mood.

It was emphasized that a major production, scientific, and technical potential has been created in the country's agrarian sector. The main point now is to fully activate this potential, raise its efficiency and the returns from it, and steadily boost the production of output on this basis.

The rate of growth of agricultural output must double during the current 5-year plan period. Much work is being done on the intensification of agriculture. The growing resources of agricultural output and raw materials will have to be promptly accepted, reliably stored, processed, and delivered to the consumer.

The speaker briefly described the condition of the agro-industrial complex' processing industry and the positive and negative trends prevailing there over the last few years. Despite the widespread network of enterprises and their relatively high degree of concentration and specialization, technical conditions in many of them do not meet modern demands. At the same time, a number of sectors experience a shortage of processing capacities. The storage base in particulr is lagging in its development. These causes produce great losses of the harvested output, and this has a serious effect on the country's economy and supplies of foodstuffs to the population. The speaker stressed the importance of the measures elaborated by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers to accelerate the development of the material and technical base of agro-industrial complex processing sectors in the period through 1990 and the assimilation of the major financial, material, and technical resources allocated for this purpose.

The implementation of this program for the renewal of production demands fundamentally new approaches from everyone involved in this work. Not only is it important to build up capacities, but it is also necessary to create production units meeting modern demands and ensuring the intensive and comprehensive processing of agricultural raw materials, high labor productivity, and primarily the output of a broad range of high quality foodstuffs. The USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, republic, kray, and oblast agro-industrial committees, scientific research institutions, and planning and construction organizations are directly responsible for this.

There have been positive changes in the solution of the set task. A substantial growth of capacities was secured last year in the meat and dairy industry, sugar refineries, and fruit and vegetable farming. Many major enterprises were commissioned, and there was an increase in the volume of construction work on storage facilities for potatoes, vegetables, and fruit. On the whole, however, work on the development of the material and technical base of processing sectors cannot be described as satisfactory.

In the RSFSR, targets for the commissioning of fixed capital were fulfilled by only 76 percent in the food industry and by 70 percent in the meat and dairy industry. The republic failed to meet its targets for the buildup of capacities in virtually all processing sectors.

The USSR Ministry of Construction in Southern Areas of the USSR has been building a children's foods combine in Rostov Oblast for 9 years now and a meat combine in Tikhoretsk and a canning combine in Krymsk for more than 10 years. The scheduled date for their commissioning has been postponed on several occasions in that period. Back in the 10th 5-Year Plan period the USSR Ministry of Construction for Areas of the Urals and Western Siberia started work on the reconstruction of a meat canning combine and in 1983 started building a dairy combine in Novosibirsk. Only half of the allocated funds have been assimilated at these projects since then. The fishing harbor in Troitsa Bay (Maritime Kray) has been under construction by contractual organizations under the USSR Ministry of Transport Construction since 1975. Less than half of the allocated funds have been assimilated there during this period. Last year the plan for construction and installation work was fulfilled by only 50 percent in terms of volume, while the targets for the first 4 months of this year were fulfilled by only 52 percent. The Moscow City Main Administration for Industrial Construction is lagging seriously with work on the construction of the Lianozovo Dairy Combine. The Moscow Gorispolkom must firmly correct the situation at this construction site. The city has the potential to do this.

The commissioning of numerous major projects has been thwarted by the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee's own contractual organizations.

Last year the Ukranian SSR failed to ensure the fulfillment of its targets for the commissioning of retooled capacities in the sugar and the oil and the fat industries and for the production of refrigerators. Only 6 percent of the estimated costs have been spent at the Rakitnoye and Gubinikha sugar refineries in 2 years. The republic State Agro-Industrial Committee displays insufficient initiative and persistence in increasing the output of potato products. About 11 plants must be built there. Hitherto, however, many enterprises have not even started on the planning work.

Attitudes toward the development of potato processing capacities are the same in the RSFSR, Belorussia, and Estonia.

A considerable quantity of flour is delivered each year to Kazakhstan and the Central Asian republics due to lack of sufficient capacities. But republic organs are not doing enough to solve this problem. The construction of flour mills in Zhelayev, Uralsk Oblast, and in Tyulkubas, Chimkent Oblast, is progressing slowly. Construction has been going on for 9 years at the grain products combine in Arkalyk, Turgay Oblast, and for 7 years at the bread plant in Kulyab

Last year in the grain products system as a whole plan fulfillment was only 76 percent for the commissioning of elevator capacities, 85 percent for combined feed plants, and only 66 percent for pasta production capacities. Only 57 of the 72 most important projects scheduled for commissioning were actually commissioned.

This year's construction program is more intense than last year's, and the work done must be much better and much faster. It is impossible to describe as proper the stance taken by planning organs in Uzbekistan, Kirghizia, Tajikstan, Turkmenia, Moldavia, the Ukraine, and Kazakhstan, which scaled down the 1987 targets and plan to reduce the 1988 targets set for republic construction ministries in terms of agro-industrial complex construction projects in cities and industrial centers. The volume of contractual work approved for the agro-industrial complex under construction ministries' 5-year plans must not be reduced.

The speaker dwelt on serious omissions in planning, design, and particularly retooling. He emphasized that the work being done to develop the base of processing sectors and re-equip them with highly productive equipment making extensive use of resource-saving and waste-free technologies is the greatest bottleneck.

Sharp criticism was leveled against leaders of the USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances and the ministry's subordinate enterprises -- the Leningrad, Izyaslav, and Brest machine building plants for the food industry, the Moscow and Voronezh science-and-production associations, and the Kapsukas and Rostov associations. Serious complaints were also made about the USSR Ministry of Chemical and Petroleum Machine Building, the USSR Ministry of the Aviation Industry, and the USSR Ministry of Medium Machine Building for delays in the manufacture of modern machinery, and about republic agro-industrial committees for inadequate scientific elaboration and errors in determining the basic requirements of technical equipment planned for production and for delays in testing such equipment. Emphasis was placed on the need to involve local industrial enterprises more broadly in the development of processing sectors and their retooling.

In conclusion, the speaker called on the leaders of agro-industrial committees and construction ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations to immediately look into the progress of construction work at every project scheduled for commissioning to ensure that all construction projects are commissioned on schedule.

At the same time it is necessary to take additional measures to accelerate the preparation of planning and estimate documentation and draw up the 1988 construction program. All the existing potential of planning organizations must be involved in this work, and strict schedules must be set for the production of documentation. Next year's draft plans must be based on measures to ensure the commissioning of capacities on the assumption that the targets of the 5-year plan's first 3 years will be met.

Confidence was expressed that machine building complex enterprises will do everything to meet their targets for the elaboration and organization of production of equipment for the agro-industrial complex' food industry sectors, and thus accelerate the creation of a modern material and technical base for the storage and processing of agricultural output, which will make it possible to more fully satisfy Soviet people's needs for high quality foodstuffs.

L.B. Yermin, first deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the RSFSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, who spoke next, emphasized that the majority of the republic's processing enterprises need reconstruction. Bearing this in mind, the State Agro-Industrial Committee elaborated a comprehensive program for the construction, reconstruction, and retooling of food industry sector enterprises and is striving to make fuller use of its reserves and potential and to restructure the work of its own machine building and construction organizations. Following a decision by the republic Council of Ministers, a special commission was set up to coordinate the activity of agro-industrial complex ministries and departments involved in the development of their own machine building. There has been an increase in investment on the reconstruction and repair of existing enterprises and the infrastructure's development. But the USSR Gosplan, the USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances, and other ministries do not ensure the full deliveries of equipment, while the technical standard of many machines is below modern requirements. It is a disturbing fact that, despite the USSR Gosplan's instructions, union-level construction ministries have failed to include a large number of projects in their contract work plans. An extremely serious situation has developed at the republic's canning industry enterprises due to delivery shortfalls and poor quality of tin plate produced by the Karaganda metallurgical combine.

A.P. Rybnikov, secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, noted that many processing sector enterprises are located in dilapidated and makeshift premises which are not properly fitted out. Meanwhile, the funds allocated for the development of the material base are not fully assimilated.

Guided by party and government resolutions, the republic has planned and is implementing measures to consolidate the storage and processing base, and contractual organizations under the Ministry of Transport Construction, the Ministry of Installation and Special Construction Work, and other ministries are involved in this work. The manufacture of custom equipment has been placed at plants under the republic State Agro-Industrial Committee, and there are plans for machine building plants to produce up to 200 items of equipment for food industry sectors to a total value of about R35 million. A request was made that slaughterhouses and refrigerated storage facilities made of modular and lightweight metal components be allocated to the republic.

P.V. Finogenov, USSR minister of the defense industry, reported that the ministry is implementing a package of measures ensuring the unconditional fulfillment of the targets set for the production of technological equipment for the food industry sectors. The technical standards of equipment have been reassessed, and a system for testing components and products as a whole has been created to ensure that set demands and reliability standards are met. The development of virtually all models of technological equipment models have been successfully completed and they have been recommended for series production.

But the set targets have not been fully met. The measures being taken will make it possible to eliminate the shortcomings that have been allowed to occur.

To reduce losses of agricultural output and increase the production of foodstuffs, Yu.A. Kolmiyets, first deputy chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers, said, the republic plans to construct, reconstruct, and retool 72 meat combines, 187 dairy combines, and 125 sugar and canning plants and shops and storage facilities for 1.6 million metric tons of potatoes, fruit, and vegetables by 1990. There has been a considerable increase in capital investment for this purpose.

Only the first step in this direction was taken last year. Machine building and other plants in cities and industrial centers are broadly involved in building up the capacities of food industry enterprises in Kharkov Oblast, where the program for building storage facilities for 123,000 metric tons will be completed already next year, and in Voroshilovgrad Oblast.

But the fulfillment of these targets in the sugar, oil and fat, margarine, and canning industries is being held back by planning organizations and the supply of technological equipment to construction sites. Measures are being taken in the republic to eliminate this shortfall in work.

Processing sector and storage base projects occupy a special position in the program of the Ministry of Construction in Northern and Western Areas of the USSR. Minister V.I. Reshetilov noted that plans for their construction and commissioning are constantly expanding. Work on the aforementioned construction projects is progressing quite well this year, with one-third of the annual program being fulfilled in the first 4 months. The ministry has been set the task of commissioning by 1 July 60 percent of all projects scheduled for commissioning this year. It is planned to commission 20 out of 138 projects ahead of schedule. Alarm is caused, however, by the tardiness of suppliers in supplying equipment to the sites, which could have a negative effect on the end results of work.

Yu.I. Lesovoy, chief of the Tyumen Bakery Industry Administration, noted that, under the conditions of decisive restructuring which has spread to all spheres of the country's social and production life, workers in the bakery industry bear enormous responsibility, since this sector directly affects Soviet people's interests. The main point today is to accelerate the retooling of enterprises and ensure the output of high quality bread and bakery products and other foodstuffs. The efforts of the collectives at the administration's enterprises are focused on this.

The USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances and other ministries producing equipment for food industry sectors must accelerate the series production of highly productive technology lines, whose application would make it possible to considerably raise the level of the mechanization of labor-intensive processes in the bakery industry.

L.B. Vasilyev, minister of machine building for light and food industry and household appliances, self-critically admitted that the sector has failed to cope with its targets for the first 4 months of this year in terms of production volume and output of food industry equipment. Having analyzed the state of affairs in detail, he gave a briefing on the measures being taken to make up for the lag that has accumulated. The necessary stocks of materials are being built up to stabilize work at the sector's enterprises, and the ordering system is being restructured with a view to ensuring that job schedules are allocated 10-12 months in advance of the planned period.

Further progress in machine building for the food industry depends on supplying the sector with high quality materials and components. Special attention must be devoted to these questions by the USSR Gosplan and the USSR Gossnab.

The solution of the task of fully supplying agro-industrial enterprises with technical equipment will also be furthered by the development of new forms of cooperation with foreign countries.

In his speech V.P. Nikonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, drew attention to the fact that the population's requirements for high quality foodstuffs are still not fully satisfied. At the same time, the enormous potential available for this purpose is not fully utilized. Much output is being lost. At first glance it would appear that the economic question of accelerating the development of the processing and storage base is an important political task.

Serious concern was expressed with regard to the unsatisfactory organization of the building of storage and refrigerated storage facilities. In 1986 the plan for commissioning fruit and vegetable storage facilities was fulfilled for the first time in several years. But the volume of capacities commissioned last year represents only 16 percent of the 12th 5-Year Plan targets. Comrades Zaychenko and Danilenko, leaders of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, and Comrade Bakin, leader of the USSR Ministry of Installation and Special Construction Work, were sharply criticized for failing to organize the production of lightweight metal components for storage facilities.

The inadequate attention given by central planning and economic organs to the development of refrigerated storage facilities during the last 5-year plan period and in 1986 resulted in the nonfulfillment of the plan for commissioning low temperature refrigerated storage facilities. The volume of their construction has declined without justification in the last few years. There is a careless attitude toward the construction of refrigerated storage facilities everywhere, especially in major industrial centers involved in the transshipment and storage of large volumes of foodstuffs.

The production base of the bakery and pasta industries is extremely underdeveloped. A significant proportion of state bread plants and Tsentrosoyuz bakeries are below modern technological standards.

The attention of Tsentrosoyuz Board Chairman Comrade Trunov was drawn to the need for the expeditious revival of all consumer societies in the countryside and the establishment everywhere of enterprises to process output purchase from the population.

Emphasis was placed on the important role of machine building for the food industry. Attention was drawn to the great importance of local initiative in the development and organization of the series production of equipment. [paragraph continues]

The country does have experience in this sphere, but it is insufficiently disseminated. This depends primarily on the comrades from the localities attending this conference.

Summing up the results of the discussion, Ye.K. Ligachev stressed that serious efforts by central and local organs are needed along this avenue of work. The development of the food industry and of the storage base for agricultural output must be treated as a priority issue in practice. Primarily this means not only ensuring that this year's capital construction plan is fulfilled, but also making up for the lag that was allowed to build up in 1986. The Central Committee will rigorously monitor the fulfillment of this demand.

The most important aspect of work is the retooling of production and its renewal. In the meantime, several union republics lack programs for the retooling of processing capacities, and it is not clear what enterprises are being retooled, how this retooling is financed, and what equipment is being supplied. In one word, matters have been left to take care of themselves. In this context critical remarks were addressed to the councils of ministers, agro-industrial committees, and party and soviet organs of the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Kazakhstan.

Particular emphasis was placed on the development of machine building for the food industry. Without highly productive equipment it will be impossible to achieve a fundamental change and a technological breakthrough in sectors dealing with the processing and storage of agricultural and fish industry output. The leaders of industrial ministries, the USSR Council of Ministers Bureau for Machine Building, and the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee bear full responsibility for the prompt fulfillment of decisions made by the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers on developing and supplying the food industry with machines and equipment meeting world standards.

Ye.K. Ligachev drew the attention of local organs to the great opportunities for solving this problem using their own resources. There are such examples in the country. The Estonian SSR and Voroshilovgrad, Sverdlovsk, Moscow, Murmansk,and several other oblasts have organized the manufacture of units for the production of food, fish, and other products. It is necessary to make fuller use of the rights vested in republics, krays, and oblasts to include the production of food industry equipment in the program of industrial enterprises and to plan their supplies of material and technical resources.

I fully agree with and support the opinion expressed here about accelerating the conversion of alcoholic beverage production units. This question is fundamental for affirming a sober way of life and taking advantage of the opportunities to rapidly boost the local output of many types of foodstuffs for which there is a great need.

In conclusion Ye.K. Ligachev touched on topical tasks of boosting agricultural output — introducing on a large scale intensive technologies for the cultivation of agricultural crops, supplying stock raising with high quality feeds, boosting livestock milk yields, utilizing all reserves to increase the production of meat and other products from cheap summer feed, and comprehensively preparing for the harvest.

CPSU Central Committee departments have been instructed to sum up and organize the monitoring of the implementation of proposals and remarks made at the conference.

The press, television, and radio broadcasting occupy an active position in the party's struggle to implement the Food Program. It is important not to slacken but to boost the mass news and propaganda media's efforts in this direction.

This year is a special year, a jubilee year. It must be marked by high results in pursuing the policy of acceleration and restructuring, in fulfilling the socialist pledges adopted in honor of October's 70th anniversary.

VOLKOGONOV SPEAKS AT WRITERS UNION PLENUM

WA261030 Moscow LITERATURNYA GAZETA in Russian No 19, 6 May 87 p 3

[Speech by D.A. Volkogonov, deputy chief of the Main Political Administration of the Soviet Army and Navy, to the Plenum of the board of directors of the USSR Union of Writers -- date and place not given]

[Text] I would like to dwell on the question of the relationship between the concept of new thinking and literature. The matter is, as we understand it, that new thinking is not a new world view, but its new facet, connected first of all with the profound realization of those terrible realities of the nuclear age, to which we cannot close our eyes. They are, they exist. However, it often happens that people look at these realities -- I would call them the terrible imperatives of the nuclear age -- only through the prism of apocalypse.

In reading some current artistic works or publicists' articles you see that often the inspiration of the artists is in fact devoted to depicting the impending apocalypse. This is hardly correct. We understand how really threatening these dangers are, but some of these invocations and unending intimidations now inadequate. The new thinking, I emphasize, is a profound realization of those new realities which have arisen in the nuclear world. As we live, we act and we fight for renewal under the conditions of these realities, we are obliged not only to create, but also to hold back a potential aggressor from adventuristic steps. It seems that one of the best articles on the dialectic of these realities was that which was recently written by A. Prokhanov in LITERATURNAYA ROSSIYA, in which he stated very well that it is not at all required that we forego our ideas or our socialist values while carrying out the struggle for peace and implementing the long-awaited renewal.

In literature, as in politics, it is important to take into account that pacifism and the struggle for peace are not one and the same. Pacifism is, if it is possible to say, a politically vegetarian tendency, although nonetheless pacifism in a limited sense is our ally. But this does not at all mean that pacifism is a position of communists. Pacifism places us in the same ranks with those who block our peaceful initiatives and, as before, place a great stake on force. One small example shows to what specifically the pacifist position can lead.

Last month, in one of the Moscow weeklies, a well-respected author and writer published in his reflections approximately such a dialogue.

The writer, according to his words, had a conversation with the commander of a Soviet nuclear submarine (anonymous, I think, because such a commander of a Soviet nuclear submarine does not exist). The essence of this dialogue was as follows. [paragraph continues]

The writer said to the officer: Imagine that our country had been turned into an asphalt desert as a result of a U.S. nuclear first strike, as foreseen in their doctrine. But you were able to receive the signal, the order, to deliver a retaliatory strike. Would you deliver such a strike? The ship commander, after thinking a while, asked the writer, "What about you? Would you press the button?" The writer categorically and simply answered, "No." Then, according to the writer, the ship commander began to doubt, and did not give a definite answer.

Of course, the writer's position is a matter of his conscience. But we would like it if, when people write about such extraordinarily serious matters, they would somewhat represent the realities, those terrible imperatives which we face today.

Now, while your plenum is taking place, thousands, tens of thousands of people are located in military missile sites, on military duty and nuclear submarines are located in the far reaches of the world ocean; for days, people do not see the stars or the sky or the eyes of the universe except to be prepared for a retaliatory strike. But I especially want to emphasize that we want, we believe, we hope that this need for a retaliatory strike will never occur, will not be required. That the reason of our antipode will not tolerate a first strike. However, it is namely our readiness for an answering strike that is the factor of fateful significance. Since a political mechanism for stopping war has not created (not through our fault) we must keep the military mechanism in a state of readiness. This is also a real imperative of the times.

Incidentally, the position of this author is not original. Already 20 years ago in West Germany the so-called "nuclear pacifists" appeared, the essence of whose views was support for unilateral disarmament. But it is characteristic that usually these social activists themselves hardly believed in the possibility of unilateral disarmament. They rarely turned to the Americans, to overseas, because they knew that the answer there would only be the same.

Still, from these "avoiders", if it can be said, comes a one-sided understanding of the imperatives of the nuclear age. Now it has become unfashionable to discuss the "image of the enemy". For instance, in peace time, even in army propaganda, this term is not used. Never. In one respected weekly a discussion was published, and the editor of this journal, a popular journal, stated that in moments of international antagonism or increasing tensions, the editorial board was literally swamped with letters, caricatures, demands for people to display vigilance, watchfulness, etc. I would have like to warn people about this, the editor stated. In fact, he is warning the Soviet people about a completely understandable watchfulness in relation to forces which (many times) confirmed their aggressiveness. I think these warnings are at the very least irrelevant.

I do not want to go into excessive detail on this question, but I would like once more to remind you that, while struggling for strengthening peace, we are obliged to remain on the alert! Such is the severe logic of the nuclear age.

With deep regret, I want to say that for many writers the problem of military-patriotic themes stands somewhere in second or third place. They sometimes say that a military-patriotic theme is bureaucratic, almost second-class literature. But this is simply a misunderstanding of those severe imperatives and real contradictions of the nuclear age, about which we are speaking today.

In conclusion, I would like to say that in the world only change is eternal. We believe that under the winds of historical change even the current military-political situation in the world will change for the better. We do not simply believe this or hope for this. For this -- there are many arguments of our dynamic reality.

GOSPLAN TAKES ACTION ON LAKE LADOGA POLLUTION

PM281455 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 87 Second Edition p 2

[Article by A. Lukashov, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan, under the rubric "After Criticism": "'At the Limit'"]

[Text] The USSR Gosplan has examined the questions posed in the article "At the Limit" (PRAVDA, 6 April), on the need to reduce effluent pollution in Lake Ladoga.

A resolution of the USSR Central Committee Presidium Commission for Environmental Protection and the Rational Use of Natural Resources has instructed ministries and departments whose enterprises and organizations are located in Lake Ladoga's water basin to formulate additional measures with the USSR Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the USSR Ministry of Health, and the USSR State Committee for Hydrometeorology and Environmental Control for inclusion in the Comprehensive Program of Nature Conservancy Measures in the Basin in 1988-1990.

Production activity at the Priozersk Pulp Plant has been stopped; this enterprise will be reoriented in the 12th 5-Year Plan to manufacture output whose production does not produce effluent harmful to the environment.

The USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry together with interested ministries and departments has worked out and, in conjunction with the USSR Gosplan, presented to the USSR Council of Ministers a plan for measures to reorient the plant envisaging appropriate targets for improving the ecological situation, providing employment for workers, and compensating for withdrawn capacities.

IZVESTIYA NOTES CONCLUSION OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

PM281557 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Church Conference Ends"]

[Text] The second international scientific church conference has ended in Moscow. This conference is one of the events whereby the Russian Orthodox Church is marking the millennium of Christianity in Russia in 1988. More than 150 people from 28 countries took part in the conference.

The conference's theme, "Theology and Spirituality of the Russian Orthodox Church," drew to Moscow not only theological historians but also specialists in the Byzantine, Slavic,and Russian cultures -- historians, philologists, and other scholars engaged in the study of ancient texts.

Theological and secular educational establishments and research institutions from Greece, France, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Finland, Poland, Hungary, India, the FRG, and other countries were represented at the conference.

The sessions heard 94 scientific reports. Virtually all of them gave rise to discussion. The reports and debates covered a range of questions which cast light on the 1000-year path of the development of Russian theological thinking. A number of the reports were devoted to spiritual and cultural cooperation between Russian and other Christian peoples as well as to ecumenical and peace-making questions.

The communique adopted by the conference participants notes in particular that the Russian Orthodox Church perceives Christian, civic, and general human duty at present not only as a result of the experience gained in past centuries but also of the experience obtained in the past 70 years of the church's life in the new society.

The Russian Orthodox Church's desire for peace was shown particularly forcefully after World War II. The new experience was reflected specifically in the "Epistle of the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church on War and Peace in the Nuclear Age." The document was sent to all Christians last year.

The conference participants' work was marked by a fervent desire to reveal the theological, scientific, and historical truths necessary for mankind to create an atmosphere of East-West trust in the world.

At the end of the conference Metropolitan Filaret of Minsk and Belorussia, chairman of the Moscow Patriarchate Foreign Church Relations Department, held a reception. He conveyed to those present warm words of greeting from Pimen, patriarch of Moscow and all the Russias, who expressed profound gratitude to the leadership of the churches and scientific centers whose scholars had contributed to the successful holding of this historic prejubilee conference.

CORRECTION TO GORBACHEV INTERVIEW WITH L'UNITA

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "PRAVDA Carries L'UNITA Interview With Gorbachev," published in the 20 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page R 4:

paragraph four, last line: ...for each other. This has been useful both for the leadership of the PCI and the leadership of the CPSU. (supplying dropped sentence)

CORRECTION TO KIEV OFFICIAL ON CHERNOBYL QUESTIONS

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Kiev Environment Official on Chernobyl Questions," published in the 28 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page R 6:

paragraph two, line two: But what will be the lot of the land which is not under farming? For there exists a possibility that nuclides can be carried to other places together with dust, does it not? (changing "loss to "lot" and "nucleads to "nuclides")

IZVESTIYA COMMENTS ON 4-MONTH PLAN FIGURES

PM281225 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 May 87 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Improving the Economic Mechanism"]

[Text] The first third of the distance of the 2d year of the 5-year plan has been traveled. The USSR Central Statistical Administration has reported on the subject: Over this period the volume of industrial output has increased 2.8 percent compared with January through April 1986, while the plan was for a 3.2 percent increase. And however much we may talk of initial difficulties and the successful overcoming of the lag, it must frankly be noted that potential is being used far from fully. A number of sectors are disrupting the fulfillment of contract commitments. Because of the imprecise work of the transport process a large quantity of coal has not been unloaded on time. Last-minute rush work has become entrenched in machine building; Some 10-15 percent of the month's target is fulfilled in the first 10 days and 40-60 percent in the last 10 days.

This year is the year of resolute restructuring of administration methods. We have entered a period of revolutionary breakthrough in our economic affairs. We have switched from individual, frequently uncoordinated experiments to the formation of a new, integral, and dynamic economic mechanism. The introduction of the principles of self-financing and economic accountability [khozraschet] has begun and material and technical supplies and enterprises' foreign economic activity are being restructured.

One of the key questions of economic restructuring is the improvement of planning. Many problems have accumulated here. Traditional approaches, excessive administrative measures, and disregard for analysis and calculation are frequently manifested in planning work. Some departments view the plan as a kind of expansible quantity, adjust it to fit the result achieved, and amend the plan indicators. And this is done on the specious pretext that of "not offending the collective" but in reality to cover up the unsoundness of economic leadership.

The production problems which formerly seemed unimportant can be seen better through the prism of self-financing. Instances of thriftlessness are having an increasingly tangible effect on work results. Now that everything has to be paid for from their own funds each worker is not indifferent to the source of production costs and to whether they can be reduced in some way. Only by learning to relate deductions into funds to what is happening in the shop and on the sector can the worker become a true owner -- a thrifty, enterprising owner. But so far it is far from everywhere that the principles of self financing are really in operation. Some sectors are continuing to redistribute revenue within the sector, which deprives leading workers of the incentive to increase profit and allows the laggards to live comfortably.

That is how matters stand at the USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry. Here they are forming substantial centralized funds, mercilessly slashing the profits of leading enterprises. IZVESTIYA recently described the situation which has taken shape at the Kama Truck Plant. For the giant truck plant on the Kama all norms for deductions from profit were calculated "in reverse" -- they were adapted to fit the funds earmarked for the plant for the 5-year plan. And this in fact meant that there could be no question of any "earning" of funds: The funds formed according to the new normatives did not ensure the implementation of even the most modest production and social development plans. The ministry has already stated that that was what was intended. On the one hand the sector's headquarters feared that the Kama Truck Plant would have too easy a life and on the other in the event of a shortage of funds centralized financing from the state budget was retained. [paragraph continues]

A transient option, so to speak. But the point is that with self financing there should be no "options": Either the enterprise itself earns the funds for its own needs or it continues to be fed from centralized funds.

The inertia of the expenditure mechanism has not been overcome in assimilating new equipment: The economic flywheel continues to resolve around volume indicators and consequently the enterprise is interested in increasing the production of expensive articles and reducing the production of cheaper ones. This is frequently done under the flag of "updating" output, most frequently only a formal updating.

Recent sessions of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo have consistently examined the package of questions connected with restructuring the work of planning and supply organs, the financial and credit mechanism, and the price formation system and a number of other questions relating to the creation of conditions for transferring the management of the national economy to economic methods. All these questions will be submitted to the next Central Committee plenum, whose task is to complete the creation of an integral system for the management of the country's economy.

The restructuring of the system of management of labor and social development should be undertaken in organic connection with the transition to new methods of economic management. Let's take just the present reform of wages. Already about 1,700 enterprises and associations with a total of over 2 million employees have gone over to the new differential wage rates and salaries. The present reform does not provide for state subsidies, every additional ruble should be earned -- by improving labor organization, introducing new equipment and progressive technology, and restructuring the management structure. On the basis of these factors, the "Nizhnevolzhskneft" association, for instance, was able to release nearly 1,500 people: The R3.9 million thus saved was channeled into establishing new wage rates and salaries. The incentive role of bonuses increased: They are now paid to the collective as a whole and the award of individual bonuses is carried out in strict accordance with each person's contribution.

The role of labor collectives is now growing in social production and the practice of electing economic leaders is being disseminated. The democratization of management, the emanicipation of people's labor initiative, is one of the economy's most important reserves. In this connection economic leaders have a lot to do to reduce the number of papers -- orders, instructions, reports, and memoranda -- which travel along the management chain.

V.I. Lenin once sharply opposed writing papers, speaking of decrees, and writing decrees when living work drowns in a sea of paper. Not "blathering" about restructuring, resolutely promoting the improvement of the mechanism of economic management -- that is the key task of the moment. We must learn to distinguish in a Leninist manner between idlers and workers and seek unfailingly practical results in restructuring the work of the management organs.

BUREAUCRATS HAMPER SELF-EMPLOYMENT ACTIVITY

PM281345 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 May 87 Morning Edition p 2

["Commercial Review" by V. Tolstov: "Permitted To Work Enterprisingly"]

[Text] The law on individual labor activity has come into force. An idea that had floated around for a long time like a banknote carried by the wind has now ceased to scare the conservative-minded section of society with its unfamiliarity.

There is now no need for people with useful skills who want to earn a living through their own individual labor to hide and work "on the side." Local ispolkom commissions are accepting proposals.

But in the first few days of their work the first problems linked with the appearance of individual workers in our society also appeared. Their appearance was not received easily or without prejudice everywhere. This, for instance, is what the Moscow Gorispolkom Commission on Questions of Individual and Cooperative Activity encountered when it studied the situation in parts of the capital. First, the rayispolkoms did not have the proper information available for those applying to work on an individual basis. If you want to find out who is receiving applicants where and at what time you have to ask the duty militiaman or traipse around from office to office. Signs or information stands are not available. Often the commission premises are located in a separate building up to three districts away from the rayispolkom itself. Completely confused about which office to approach, the prospective individual workers continue their search through the city streets and alleys.

It turns out that currently -- at a time when the flow of visitors is at its height just after the law's entry into force, people are not being received every day and both the reception procedure and examination of applications are unjustifiably complicated. In Zheleznodorozhnyy Rayon, for instance, a war invalid applied for permission to draught-proof doors. He was refused since he had forgotten to bring a form from the Medical and Labor Expert Commission. It transpired, however, that in this case no form was needed. It was not a question of accepting someone for a permanent job. Furthermore, the rayispolkom commission had no right to demand such a form.

There should be no superfluous papers or permits -- nothing over and above what is laid down by the law. That was unambiguously stated by Yu. Luzhkov, chairman of the city commission and deputy chairman of the Moscow Gorispolkom. The firmness with which the commission he heads defends the fundamental provisions of the Law on Individual Labor Activity is worthy of respect.

Observing the reaction in the hall where the rayispolkom representatives had gathered whenever the commission was investigating acute situations, one could note the strength of our bureaucratic habit of amending higher organs' laws and resolutions to suit ourselves or to reflect our views. The custom of unnecessarily complicating clerical procedures also plays its part. In Proletarskiy Rayon the commission decided of its own accord to test citizens' knowledge of the trades that they were intending to pursue. In another case, they demanded that the sources of raw materials from which individual workers were planning to make their goods be indicated. The city commission considered all this to be an infringement of citizens' legal rights. Workers' skills should be tested by the clients or purchasers. And all individual workers should not be seen as thieves from the outset. And it is the owners of material assets who should keep an eye on them and bear responsibility for their safe-keeping. There is no need for rayon commissions to shoulder the role of investigative organs. None of them is empowered to do so. All the more so as the commissions have quite enough work of their own.

According to incomplete data, more than 4,500 applications for permission to work on an individual basis have been submitted in Moscow and another 350-odd applications have come from cooperatives. I think that these figures nonetheless do not reflect the true number of people interested. Some 3 years ago scientists at the USSR Gosplan's Economics Research Institute concluded that approximately 2 million people illegally "moonlight" in the services sphere alone and their annual income runs to around R5-6 billion. One can assume that the process by which former moonlighters become individual workers is also being held up by the artificial restrictions which certain local soviet commissions have undertaken to erect.

And yet, despite all the problems, we can already see in the example of Moscow just how active and enterprising workers who are entitled to engage in independent economic activity have become. Unorthodox proposals sometimes put ispolkom commissions in a difficult position. In Perovskiy Rayon a cooperative proposing to grow field mushrooms all the year round applied to be registered. Where were these mushrooms to be grown, the commission inquired. In the numerous empty or neglected basements of apartment blocks, which are ideally suited for the purpose. Permission was granted.

A children's clothing cooperative requested permission to supply coffee to clients in order to make things more pleasant. Permission was granted.

A housewife, having reached agreement with a cafe situated on the first floor of her block, proposed making cream horns. At first the Kuybyshev Rayispolkom Commission refused her. Then it stood back, had a rethink, and granted permission.

But a VCR owner, who wanted to put his video in a cafe and hold video shows there in return for half the takings at the door was refused because it was rightly determined that this type of activity cannot be considered labor activity. Just as the income from it could not be considered earned income.

Problems will continue to arise as indvidual labor and cooperative activity develops. Initially such activity will require a particularly attentive and careful approach. And, as the Moscow Gorispolkom Commission rightly decided, it is necessary to accommodate cooperatives and individual workers as far as possible, to simplify managerial procedures, and to back initiative.

TASS NOTES TERMINATION OF WHALING EFFORTS

LD291001 Moscow TASS in English 0931 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS -- The Soviet flotilla of whaling ships have ended their last trip. The Soviet Government has decided to stop any furter whaling, the weekly "MOSCOW NEWS" wrote in its latest issue. The 3,028 whale hunted during the last six-month trip became the last one to be killed by whalers in the 20th century. International inspectors also returned home: Yamamoto Seiichi was with the Sovetskaya Ukraina, and Georgy Teryoshkin was with a Japanese factory ship for six months.

BRIEFS

NEW SIBERIAN METALLURGY CENTER -- Yakutsk, Eastern Siberia May 27 TASS -- Another, fourth centre of ferrous metallurgy will be set up in the Soviet Union close to a coking coal basin in southern Yakutia, Soviet scientists have disclosed. Preparatory work has already been started to develop three new iron ore deposits, their stocks estimated at two billion tons. The ministry for Ferrous Metallurgy of the USSR submitted for consideration to the government a proposal for building an ore-dressing plant in the region. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 27 May 87 LD]

PAPER REVIEWS SPRING SOWING WORK PROGRESS

PM261531 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 21 May 87 p 1

["Agricultural Review" by N. Osychkin: "The Decisive Days of the Sowing Campaign"]

[Text] According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, by 18 May spring crops had been sown on 72.7 million hectares. This is 50 percent of the plan and 22 million hectares less than at this time last year. Grain and pulse crops (exluding corn) occupy 39.4 million hectares, or 45 percent of the area allocated. During the week under review spring crops were sown on 29 million hectares, which is 12 million more than during the previous 7-day period. Unquestionably, the pace has accelerated. However, it will have to be stepped up sharply to make up for what has been missed and to ensure that seeds are introduced in the ground on time on every field.

According to the calendar we have entered the last 10 days of spring. In most parts of the country, farmers only have 10 "optimum" days left to complete the sowing. Yet there is work in the fields as far as the eye can see. This means that all agro-industrial complex workers must double and treble their efforts to complete the sowing on time despite all the difficulties, to lay a good foundation for the harvest of the second year of the 5-year plan.

In the RSFSR almost half of the spring crop area -- 37 million hectares -- have been sown and in Lipetsk, Kursk, Belgorod, Tula, and Orel Oblasts this pressing work is drawing to a close. Sowing has gathered speed on fields in Gorkiy and Vladimir Oblasts. This has been achieved thanks to the introduction of progressive methods of labor, and above all the team contract and round-the-clock use of equipment. At the same time, farms in Smolensk, Yaroslavl, and Novgorod Oblasts and Mari ASSR have sown only one-third of the area allocated. No one can blame bad weather now, the days are sunny and dry and it is possible to work from dawn to dusk. The delays are caused by poor organization of labor and violations of labor and technological discipline.

At a number of places people are sacrificing quality. The following alarm signal has been received at the editorial office from Ryazan Oblast where the sowing is drawing to a close. On Chuchkovskiy Rayon's "Put Ilicha" Kolkhoz machine operators had taken into the fields units that had not been adjusted. Luckily people's control workers were alert and prevented bad work being done in the field. The farm's chief engineer I. Irishin was given a party reprimand for unsatisfactory preparation of machinery and lack of supervision of its operation. On the other hand, in the Sarayevskiy Rayon Ilich Kolkhoz neither the Chief Agronomist V. Fedorov nor the other specialists were able to intervene on time and stop slovenly workers. As a result peas have been sown badly here on 78 hectares. Such instances are impermissible.

The best period for sowing grain crops has now begun in the eastern parts of the country. The material and technical potential available here makes it possible for agricultural workers in the Urals, Siberia, and Kazakhstan to introduce seeds in the soil within 5-6 days and create good preconditions for obtaining an excellent harvest of the main local food crop -- spring wheat. This is the current motto of many collectives on farms in the Bashkir ASSR where half of the spring crop area has been sown; in Orenburg Oblast this area totals 34 percent, in Tomsk Oblast 28 percent, and in Kemerovo Oblast 23 percent. Sowing has started on the second million hectares in Altay Kray. [paragraph continues]

The agrotechnical complex is functioning efficiently here, the fields where intensive techniques are being applied are being strictly supervised by agronomists. Machine operators are trying to preserve the moisture reserves, kill the weeds, and introduce fertilizer together with the seeds.

Kazakh sovkhozes and kolkhozes have set themselves the task of increasing the crop, achieving stability in grain production, and fulfilling state grain procurement plans. This task is largely solved during the spring sowing campaign. By the beginning of the third 10-day period of May spring crops had been sown on 6.7 million hectares in the republic, or 24 percent of the plan. In order to ensure the operation of agricultural machinery in two shifts, all rural machine operators and specialists of a number of enterprises and organizations familiar with agricultural machinery are manning the tractors. The fields where intensive techniques are being used -- and there are 5 million hectares of them in Kazakhstan -- have been entrusted to the most experienced people.

Farm and agro-industrial association managers are required to utilize all available machinery and to ensure its high performance. Unfortunately, they are not coping successfully with this task everywhere. In Kalinin Oblast 500 tractors are out of action because of lack of spare parts, mainly bearings for the DT-75 transmission. The Rostov-na-Donu No. 10 State Bearings Plant was to have delivered them. The deadline has passed and of 700 No. 2612 bearings only 70 have been delivered and of 1,500 No. 32315 bearings only 45 have been received. A.P. Afanasyev, chief of a subsection of the Kalinin Agro-industrial Committee has spent a week at the plant to speed matters up but without success. Criticism leveled at the plant managers in SELSKAYA ZHIZN of 28 April has not had any effect either. Maybe the USSR Ministry of the Automotive Industry to which the enterprise belongs will take action?

Not an hour must be lost on the row crop fields. Grain corn occupies 3.5 million hectares which is 500,000 hectares less than this time last year. While in Moldavia, Stavropol Kray, and Kabardino-Balkariya this work is drawing to a close, the plan in Rostov Oblast has so far been fulfilled only 35 percent, in Voronezh Oblast 36 percent, and in Volgograd Oblast only 5 percent. Sunflower sowing has picked up speed but this crop still remains to be sown on 1 million hectares. Suguar beets have been sown on more than 3.2 hectares -- almost all the area allocated. Interrow tillage and pest and disease control is getting under way everywhere.

The sowing of cotton has been completed. Flax-growers, on the other hand, have still much work ahead of them. This valuable crop occupies 650,000 hectares, or 66 percent of the plan. Potatoes have been planted on 1.3 million hectares -- less than half the planned area. Vegetable crops occupy 917,000 hectares which is slightly less than this time last year. Sowing of rice, buckwheat, and millet is under way.

A few days ago the CPSU Central Committee emphatically drew the attention of leaders of party and soviet organs, agro-industrial committees, and kolkhozes and sovkhozes to the need to sharply step up the work in the procurement of feed for livestock. As a rule, stocks sufficient for 18 months should be laid in. The successful solution of this problem will depend on the attitude adopted at local level to the feed crop fields in the spring. It is necessary to sow as many high-protein crops as possible -- soya beans, rape, peas, lupin, alfafa, and grain corn. However, not everywhere has this work been organized efficiently. At Odessa Oblast livestock units an acute shortage of feed is currently felt. However, not everyone has learned their lesson from this. [paragraph continues]

On Kotovskiy Rayon's Oktyabr and Druzhba Narodov Kolkhozes the sowings of perennial grasses have been left untended and have not been dressed with ammonia liquor of which the rayon agrochemical organization has enough and to spare. Attention has failed to be focused on feed in other rayons of the Black Sea region where many plans and programs have been adopted on this question but practical work has been neglected.

The last 10 days of May are decisive in the spring fields.

MEDIA COVER 21-22 MAY AGRICULTURAL WORK

LD230117 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 21-22 May. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

21 May

Sowing of cereals and sugar beets is ending in Mordovia. Corn and potatoes have been sown on approximately 40 percent of the area allocated. (0000)

Potato planting has been completed in Brest, Gomel, Grodno, and Minsk Oblasts. (0000)

Harvesting of winter rape is in progress in North Ossetia. First test cuts of perennial grasses will begin today. (0000)

In the Tatar ASSR, spring sowing has been completed on 1 million hectares Sowing of peas is ending. Vegetables and potatoes are being planted. (0200)

Saratov Oblast: Sowing of corn has begun. The crop will occupy 700,000 hectares corn for grain will occupy twice the area used for it last year. (0200)

Turkmen farmers have started harvesting winter cereals. The area under grain crops has been extended by 25,000 hectares Barley in now being reaped. (0200)

Ukrainian farms have completed sowing of annual grasses, which occupy more than 1 million hectares first cuts are being made in southern oblasts. (0400)

Spring crops have been sown on over 500,000 Hectares in Omsk Oblast. (0400)

22 May

In the Kazakh SSR, hay has been mown on 200,000 Hectares to date. (0400)

Winter barley is being harvested in southern Uzbekistan. The agro-industrial committee of the republic has told Moscow Radio that combine overhaul has still not been completed everywhere. In Karakalpakia only one-third of combine harvesters are ready. The standard of repair work is inadequate in some areas, notably Kashka-Darya Oblast. (0400)

Farmers in Turkmenistan have finished sowing cotton crops. The late spring delayed the schedule of sowing by almost 2 weeks, but many farms managed to make up the lost time. (0600)

About 200,000 hectares of arable land has been flooded in Tyumen Oblast, and the sowing schedule has been delayed. In order to make up the lost time spring field work is being carried out round-the-clock. Tractors are being refuelled out in the fields. Seeds are also being brought there. However, over the oblast as a whole, only about 10 percent of the whole sowing area has been sown. (0600)

Today seeds have been sown on 10,000 hectares in specialized rice-growing farms in Kizlyar Rayon, Dagestan. That is two-thirds of the area set aside for havesting rice. The schedule for sowing was delayed by almost 2 weeks because of the late spring. There is also an acute shortage of water. (0600)

The harvesting of winter cereals started in Tajikistan today. Mechanizers in the Vakhsh Valley are gathering on average over 40 wintals per hectare a hard variety wheat. (1000)

Altay grain growers are currently sowing at the rate of 250,000 hectares. The priority task is to complete the sowing of spring wheat. Many farms in the eastern part of the area have already done this. Mechanisers in the Kalunda area are being hindred by frequent rain, and a two and even three-shift system is being worked to maintain the schedule, combining both presowing and sowing operations. So far, half of the 1.5 million hectares. allocated to wheat in the Altay has been sown. (1100)

Haymaking is gathering pace in Kazakhstan. Following on from Chimkent and Dzhambul Oblasts, Farms in Alma-Ata and Taldy-Kurgan Oblast have now begun the large-scale cutting of grasses. The first mowers have entered the fields in Semipalatinsk and Tselingrad Oblast. So far, in Kazakhstan, grass has been mown over 200,000 hectares. The total area allotted to mowing for feed is 30 million hectares. The grass is of good quality, and the yield from the first cutting is between 40 and 60 quintals per hectare. (1100)

HURRICANE IN STAVROPOL KRAY DECIMATES CROPS, SHEEP

LD260944 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 26 May 87

[Text] Our Stavropol correspondent, (Pavel Guskov) has just reported: The recent hot spell in Stavropol Kray made farmers think about rain, be it only a little, and they were gladdened by the darkened sky. However, it was not the long-awaited rain that the change in the weather brought. In many rayons in the south and east of the kray, a hurricane swept through with furious force. The wind, which raged for some 2 hours, tore off roofs and knocked down many small structures. At the same time, very heavy hail came down on the fields. In Andropovskiy Rayon, the hailstones reached the size of chicken eggs; here alone almost 30 sheep died in half an hour from the icy salvo.

The unruly conduct of the elements has caused significant damage to the kray's agriculture. According to the first calculations, young grain and fodder crops have been devastated on an area of some 160,000 hectares. Luckily, there were no casualties. At the moment emergency measures are being undertaken in the kray to eliminate the aftermath of the elements. Sowing units have gone out into the steppe, and the fields that have suffered are being reseeded urgently, in order to harvest feed crops from them. The fuel and construction materials needed for this unplanned work are being procured.

COSMOS-1848 'RESEARCH' SATELLITE LAUNCH REPORTED

LD290851 Moscow TASS in English 0737 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS -- On May 28 the Soviet Union launched another satellite, Kosmos 1848. The satellite carries research instruments for space investigations. The satellite is put into orbit with the following parameters: initial period of revolution -- 90.2 minutes, apogee -- 400 kilometres, perigee -- 208 kilometres, orbital inclination -- 72.9 degrees. Instrumentation aboard the satellite operates smoothly.

MIR STATION EXPERIENCES ELECTRICITY SHORTAGE

LD280806 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] The Mir Space Complex, where two Soviet cosmonauts are working, has begun to experience a shortage of electricity. The problem emerged after Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin had put into operation a large number of instruments and equipment. The astrophysical module Kvant, which is as big as the Mir station, has joined the station in consuming energy, besides, the cosmonauts are welding semiconductors on the Korund unit, which consumed a lot of power. Under the program of their flight, Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin should leave the station for work in raw space. They will have to install additional solar batteries.